



**TOWN OF ATHOL  
ANNUAL REPORT  
JULY 1, 2008 TO JUNE 30, 2009**

## FY09 ANNUAL REPORT

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and to the Citizens of the Town of Athol

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Elected Officers & Town Boards	
i. Town Clerk	4
ii. Board of Selectmen	12
iii. Library Trustees	13
iv. Housing Authority	14
2. Town Manager	15
3. Finance	
i. Accountant	17
ii. Treasurer	41
iii. Tax Collector	41
iv. Assessor	42
4. Public Safety	
i. Fire Department	44
ii. Emergency Management	46
iii. Police Department	46
iv. Board of Health	48
v. Building Dept., plumbing, gas	49
vi. Wiring Inspector	50
vii. Animal Inspector	51
viii. Sealer of Weights & Measures	51
ix. Traffic Safety	52
5. Public Services	
i. Council on Aging	53
ii. Public Library	56
iii. Town Planner / Grant Admin.	63
iv. Veterans	63
6. Public Works	65
7. Retirement Board	66
8. Elections / Town Meetings	66
9. Schools	
i. ARRSB/School Committee	116
ii. Monty Tech	125
10. Boards & Committees	
i. Financial	

1. FWAC	132
2. CPC	133
ii. Planning & Environmental	
1. Board of Planning &Community Development	134
2. Zoning Board of Appeals	135
3. EDIC	136
iii. Administration	
1. Charter Review	137
2. Zoning By-law Review	137
iv. Miscellaneous	
1. Cable Advisory	138
2. Cultural Council	139
3. Lake Park Playground	140
4. Memorial Building Committee	140
5. Memorial Hall Revitalization Committee	141
6. Tax Increment Financing Committee	142
7. Citizens Advisory Committee	142
8. Energy Committee	143

## **FACTS ABOUT ATHOL**

**HISTORY**      April 20, 1733, General Court of Massachusetts laid out the township of Pequage. September 17, 1735, the first five families settled here. March 6, 1762, the township was incorporated and the name changed to Athol.

**LOCATION**      North central Massachusetts, 38 miles north of Worcester, and 71 miles west of Boston.

**AREA**            Land    32.34 square miles  
                      Water    .73 square miles  
                      Total    33.07 square miles

**POPULATION**      11,299

**REGISTERED**      6,601  
**VOTERS**

### **POLLING PLACES**

Precinct 1: Congregational Church    1225  
   Chestnut Street

Precinct 2: Liberty Hall, Town Hall  
   584 Main Street

Precinct 3: Liberty Hall, Town Hall  
   584 Main Street

### **ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION**

First Monday in April

### **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

Fourth Monday after the Annual  
Town Election

### **FALL TOWN MEETING**

Third Monday in October

**TOWN**            Open Town Meeting  
**GOV'T**           Five Member Board of  
   Selectmen  
   Town Manager

**TAX RATE**      \$10.43

### **TOWN HALL OFFICE HOURS**

Mon, Wed., Thurs.    8:00 AM-5:00 PM

Tuesday 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Friday    CLOSED

## **COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS FEDERAL AND STATE OFFICERS**

### **UNITED STATES SENATORS**

John F. Kerry  
SR-166 Russell Senate Office  
Building  
Washington DC 20510  
(202) 224-2742 Washington DC  
(617) 565-8159 Boston

Scott Brown  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20510  
(202) 224-4543 Washington DC  
(617)565-3170 Boston

### **REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS, First Congressional District John W. Olver**

1116 Longworth House Office  
Building  
Washington DC 20515  
(202) 225-5335 Washington DC  
249-0991            Athol

### **GOVERNOR**

Deval Patrick  
State House, Room 360  
Boston MA 02133  
(617) 725-4005

**COUNCILLOR, Seventh District**  
James D. O'Brien, Jr.

State House, Room 184  
Boston MA 02133

SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT,  
Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire, &  
Franklin District

Stephen Brewer  
State House, Room 109B  
Boston MA 02133  
(617) 722-1540

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL  
COURT, Second Franklin District

Christopher Donelan  
State House, Room 39  
Boston MA 02133  
(617) 722-2930 Boston  
(978) 544-2180 Orange



## **ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS**

### **MODERATOR**

Lawrence P. McLaughlin, 2010

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Alan D. Dodge, 2010  
Joseph F. Maga, 2010  
Anthony A. Brighenti, 2011  
Phillip D. King 2011  
Wayne E. Miller, M.D., 2012

### **ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

From Athol:

Lee E. Chauvette, 2010  
Joseph F. Maga, 2010  
Kala S. Fisher, 2010  
Karen M. McNiff, 2011  
Wayne A. Whitfield, 2011  
William J. Caldwell, 2012  
Deborah Kuzmeskas, 2012

From Royalston:

Chester H. Hall, III, 2010  
Kelly Newton, 2011  
Roberta Newman, 2012

### **LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

Sharon A. Brighenti, 2010  
Margaret Feldman, 2010  
John R. Greene, 2011  
Margaret L. Young, 2011  
Carol A. Ambrozy, 2012  
Francis W. Foster, 2012

## **ATHOL HOUSING AUTHORITY**

Edward C. Sawin, 2010  
Cathy Muzzy, 2011  
Cathy Savoy, 2012  
Edward Ledgard, 2014  
Vacant (State Appointee)

## **CONSTABLES**

Leon A. Lozier, 2010  
Richard L. Qualters, 2011  
Kenneth A. Vaidulas, 2012

## **APPOINTED TOWN OFFICERS**

Admin Asst., Board of Selectmen/  
Town Manager.....Heather Brissette  
Alternate Inspector of Buildings/  
Zoning Agent.....Brian Gale  
Animal Control Officer...Jennifer Arsneault  
Assessor.....Lisa Aldrich  
Assistant Agent/Secretary Board of  
Health.....Deborah Karan  
Assistant Collector.....Becky Young  
Assistant Inspector of  
Buildings.....Brian Gingras  
Assistant

Gas Inspector.....Robert Mallet  
 Assistant Municipal  
 Coordinator.....Thomas Lozier  
 Assistant Plumbing  
 Inspector.....John Dolan  
 Assistant Town  
 Accountant.....Christine E. Mailloux  
 Assistant Town Clerk....Barbara Smith  
 Assistant Treasurer.....Barbara Smith  
 Assistant Wire Inspector....Gordon Dickie  
 Board of Health Agent.....Phil Leger  
 Civil Defense Director.....James W. Wright  
 Collector of  
 Taxes.....Karen M. Stoddard  
 Director, Council on  
 Aging.....Cathy Savoy  
 Director of Veterans' Benefits &  
 Services.....Neil McGuirk  
 Emergency Management  
 Director.....James W. Wright  
 Fire Chief.....James W. Wright  
 Graves Registration Officer/  
 Burial Agent.....Neil McGuirk  
 Inspector of Animals..Dr. Howard C. Adams  
 Inspector of Buildings/Zoning  
 Agent.....Jeffrey Cooke  
 Inspector of Gas Piping &  
 Appliances.....Melvin L. Talbot, Jr.  
 Inspector of Wires.....Gary Terroy  
 Memorial Building  
 Superintendent.....Ben J. Feldman  
 Montachusett Regional Vocational  
 Technical School Committee.....Toni L.  
 Phillips  
 Municipal Coordinator...James W. Wright  
 Parking Clerk.....Heather Brissette  
 Parking Meter Attendant.....Ronny Cote  
 Plumbing Inspector....Gerald A. Brousseau  
 Police Chief.....Timothy Anderson  
 Sealer of Weights &  
 Measures.....John R. Greene  
 Superintendent of Public  
 Works.....Douglas Walsh  
 Superintendent of  
 Schools.....Anthony Polito  
 TownAccountant.....Gene A. Ferrari, Jr.

Town Clerk.....Nancy E. Burnham  
 Town Counsel.....Mark Goldstein  
 Town Manager.....David B. Ames  
 Town Planner.....Phil Delorey  
 Treasurer.....Ben J. Feldman

## **TOWN BOARDS/COMMITTEES**

### **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITES ACT COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**

Diane Dill, 2010  
 Vacant, 2010  
 Vacant, 2010  
 Vacant, 2010  
 Vacant, 2010

### **ATHOL CULTURAL COUNCIL**

Pauline Briggs, 2011  
 Christine Hause, 2011  
 Ethan Stone, 2011  
 Tabitha DeHays, 2012  
 Nancy Tatro, 2012  
 Kathleen Cygan, 2012  
 Melinda Jack, 2012  
 Brianna Haskins, 2013

### **ATHOL PARK DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Martha Arsenault, 2010  
 Elwin Bacon, 2010  
 Althea Bramhall, 2010  
 Kethy D'Orto, 2010  
 Margaret Ellis, 2010  
 Caroline Mansfield, 2010  
 William J. Meehan, II, 2010  
 Vacant, 2010

### **BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

Kenneth A. Vaidulas, 2011  
 Heather Brissette, 2012  
 Lisa Aldrich, indefinite

**BOARD OF PLANNING AND  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Kathy Norton, 2011  
David Small, 2013  
Carolyn Brouillet, 2014  
Jacqueline Doherty, 2014  
Michael J. Valeri, 2015

**BYLAW REVIEW COMMITTEE**

David Ames, 2010  
Timothy Anderson, 2010  
Nancy Burnham, 2010  
Kala Fisher, 2010  
Mary Forristall, 2010

**CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Daniel Carey, 2010  
Beverly Chauvette, 2010  
Nancy Blackmer, Orange Rep.

**CAPITAL PROGRAM COMMITTEE**

Erik Euvard, 2010  
Robert Muzzy, 2010  
John Lambert, 2011  
Dennis Killay, 2012  
Michael Butler, 2013  
Linda Oldach, 2013  
James Smith, 2013

**CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE**

David Ames, 2010  
Nancy Burnham, 2010  
Pamela Connor, 2010  
Mary Forristall, 2010  
Lawrence McLaughlin, 2010  
Wayne Miller, M.D., 2010  
Elizabeth Peterson, 2010  
Keith Williams, 2010

**CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Rebecca Bialecki, 2010  
Phil Delorey, 2010  
Neil McGuirk, 2010  
Cathy Savoy, 2010  
Winniphred Stone, 2010

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Katheryn Harrow, 2010  
Dennis Killay, 2010  
James Smith, 2010  
John R. Greene, 2011  
Robert Shepardson, 2011  
Walter Lehmann, 2012  
Robert Muzzy, 2012

**Associate Members:**

Elwin Bacon, 2010  
John Bisbee, 2010

**CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT  
BOARD**

Anthony Belloli  
Brian Stoddard  
Joseph Wojtkowski  
James W. Wright  
Gene A. Ferrari, Jr. (ex officio)  
Lynne Barilone, Administrator

**COUNCIL ON AGING**

Anne Gatautis, 2010  
Stephen Larry, 2010  
Margaret Young, 2010  
Kathy Cygan, 2011  
Vicky Janik, 2011  
Vacant, 2011  
Lillian Bachelder, 2012  
Anne O'Brien, 2012  
Jean Ryder, 2012  
Cathy Savoy, Director

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND  
INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION (EDIC)**

James W. Meehan, Jr., 2010  
Richard Plotkin, 2010  
Richard Whelpley, 2011  
Keith McGuirk, 2011  
Kevin Miller, 2011  
Clinton Sykes, 2012

**Associate Members:**

Alan Dodge, 2010

**FINANCE AND WARRANT  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Pamela Caranfa, 2010  
Michelle Leeman, 2010  
Brian Dodge, 2011  
Erik Euvrard, 2011  
Vacant, 2011  
Cynthia Caldwell, 2012  
Gary Deyo, 2012

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

Joan Hamlett, 2010  
Earle Baldwin, 2011  
Norma Purple, 2012

**HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

Carolyn Brouillet, 2010  
John R. Greene, 2010  
Shelly Small, 2011  
Jean Shaughnessy, 2011

**INSURANCE ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE**

Ronny Cote, 2010  
John Duguay, 2010  
Kevin Heath, 2010  
Christine Mailloux, 2010  
Kathleen Putnam, 2010  
James Wright, 2010  
Timothy Wright, 2010

**MEMORIAL BUILDING COMMITTEE**

Nancy E. Burnham, 2010  
Alan D. Dodge, 2010  
Ben J. Feldman, 2010  
Glenn R. Frenette, 2010  
John R. Greene, 2010  
Phillip D. King, 2010  
Wayne E. Miller, 2010

**MEMORIAL HALL  
REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE**

Bonnie Benjamin, 2010  
Rene Lake-Gagliardi, 2010  
Charlie Pierson, II, 2010  
Joanne Rich, 2010

Thomas Rich, 2010  
Ethan Stone, 2010  
Tonisha Thompson, 2010

**OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION  
COMMITTEE**

Earle Baldwin, 2010  
Erik Euvrard, 2010  
Joshua Feldman, 2010  
Brian Hall, 2010  
Debra Joly, 2010  
David Small, 2010

**Associate Members:**

Carolyn Brouillet, 2010  
Richard D. Godin, 2010  
Robert Muzzy, 2010

**PERSONNEL BOARD**

Richard Donovan, 2010  
Nancy Gionet, 2010  
Pamela Caranfa, 2011  
Mary E. Forristall, 2012  
Ranee LaPointe, 2012

**PLANNING BOARD**

John Hague, 2010  
Lynn Harper, 2011  
Jerome Noyes, 2012  
John Lambert, 2013

**RECREATION COMMISSION**

William Caldwell, 2010  
Jeffrey Jobst, 2010  
Sandra King, 2010  
Kevin Lecy, 2010  
Kirby Lecy, 2010

**REGISTRARS OF VOTERS**

Saverio Kaczmarczyk, 2010  
Hugh A. Horrigan, 2011  
Gordon D. Briggs, 2012  
Nancy E. Burnham, Town Clerk



**SKATEPARK COMMITTEE**

James Dresser, 2010  
Jay Ellingwood, 2010  
Jason Goodrich, 2010  
James Narkevicius, 2010  
Caroline Salls, 2010  
Michelle Salls, 2010  
John Sullivan, 2010

**TAX INCREMENTAL FINANCING COMMITTEE**

Gene Ferrari, Jr., 2010  
Phil Delorey, 2010  
Lisa Aldrich, 2010  
Brian Dodge, 2010  
David Ames, 2010

**TOWN ENERGY COMMITTEE**

Julia Daley, 2010  
John Jackson, 2010  
Brian Nugent, 2010  
Don Temple, 2010  
Patricia Roix, 2010

**TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Timothy Anderson  
Douglas Walsh  
James W. Wright  
Alfred Blanchard, 2010  
Matthew Cipriani, 2010  
Glen Frenette, 2010  
Kevin Heath, 2010  
Walter Lehman, 2010  
Erwin Merrifield, 2010

**UNDERUTILIZED TOWN BUILDING REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Anthony Brighenti, 2010  
Dennis Killay, 2010  
Robert Muzzy, 2010  
James Smith, 2010

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

Robert Mallet, 2010

Richard Coburn, 2011  
Susan Mondy Sykes, 2012  
Elvin R. Chartrand, 2013  
Henry D'Orto, Jr., 2014

**Associate Members:**

Richard Godin, 2010  
Norman Harrow, 2010

**ZONING BYLAW REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Bill Aucoin, 2010  
Carolyn Brouillet, 2010  
Hal Gillan, 2010  
Richard Godin, 2010

**WHEN BOARDS & COMMITTEES MEET**

<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	<b>TIME OF MEETING</b>	<b>PLACE OF MEETING</b>
------------------------	------------------------	-------------------------

<b>ATHOL HOUSING AUTHORITY</b>		
1st Wednesday	9:00 AM	
21 Morton Meadows		

<b>ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE</b>
--

3rd Wednesday
7:30 PM
Middle School

**BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

Tuesday	As posted
Room 15	

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

4th Tuesday	4:00 PM
Room 1	

**BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES (no meeting July & August)**

3rd Wednesday	6:30 PM
Library	

**BOARD OF PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday          7:00 PM  
Liberty Hall

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3rd Tuesday      7:00 PM  
Room 21

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday              9:00 AM  
NQCC

CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
4th Tuesday              7:00 PM  
Liberty Hall

CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT  
BOARD  
4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday          9:00 AM  
Room 3

COUNCIL ON AGING  
3rd Tuesday              1:00 PM  
Room 21

EDIC  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday          7:00 PM  
Liberty Hall

ENERGY COMMITTEE  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday (Feb-Dec) 7:00 PM  
Room 21

FINANCE AND WARRANT ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday          7:00 PM  
Liberty Hall

PLANNING BOARD  
1st Monday               7:00 PM  
Room 21

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS  
4th Wednesday          7:00 PM  
Room 21

ZONING BYLAW REVIEW  
COMMITTEE  
2<sup>nd</sup> Monday               7:00 PM  
Room 21

All meetings are held in Memorial Building  
unless otherwise noted.

M.G.L. chapter 39, sec. 23B: notice of  
every meeting of any governmental body  
shall be filed with the Town Clerk at least  
48 hours prior to meeting, including  
Saturday but not Sunday and legal holidays.  
Failure to post notice of a meeting may  
invalidate any action taken at such meeting.

## TOWN CLERK RECEIPTS

	7/1/2007 6/30/2008	7/1/2008 6/30/2009
RECORDING & FILING		
Cemetery Deeds	\$70.00	\$70.00
Marriage Intentions	\$1,550.00	\$1,550.00
House Numbers	\$600.00	\$280.00
Total	<b>\$2,220.00</b>	<b>\$1,900.00</b>

CERTIFIED COPIES OF  
Birth, Marriage & Death  
Records

**\$17,870.00 \$14,874.00**

DOG LICENSES

**\$21,841.00 \$20,451.00**

SPORTING LICENSES

Turned over to State	\$5,274.40	\$6,174.75
Retained by Town	\$153.00	\$298.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,427.40</b>	<b>6,280.00</b>

NON-CRIMINAL CITATIONS **0.00 \$1,150.00**

TOWN LICENSES **\$3,175.00 \$3,295.00**

MISCELLANEOUS **\$ 2,926.84 \$ 904.20**

APPLICATION FEES

Planning Board	\$2,250.00	\$10,313.95
Zoning Board	\$1,550.00	\$1,500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,800.00</b>	<b>\$11,813.95</b>

**TOTAL RECEIPTS \$57,260.24 \$60,668.15**

**VITAL RECORDS**

7/1/07 - 7/1/08 -  
6/30/08 6/30/09

Births	125	110
Marriages	62	55
Deaths	179	167

## Board of Selectmen

To the Citizens of Athol;

July 30, 2008 the Board of Selectmen welcomed Governor Deval Patrick to Town. Patrick held a Town Hall style meeting that afternoon in Fish Park greeting approximately 250 residents. His speech touched on current issues like the economy, health care and education but he responded to questions from audience members about job development at the North Quabbin business park, overcrowding in the ARRS classrooms, and commuter rail transportation past Fitchburg. Patrick congratulated residents on its community activism and made the statement that he is aware the Massachusetts border does not end at Route 495. He noted that he “was the Governor of all of Massachusetts.”

Back to business the Board of Selectmen met twice a month and began the fiscal year by signing onto the state’s Green Communities initiative in which the Town commits to finding ways to reduce its consumption of non-renewable resources and looks for ways to create new renewable energy sources.

The construction at the new Athol Police Station at 280 Exchange Street wrapped up and the police department was successfully relocated from the basement of the Town Hall.

Mass Highway finished its nearly two year reconstruction project of the Main Street, from the Athol High School to the South Main Street bridge.

In November the Board of Selectmen welcomed representatives of the Athol Orange Rotary club and several real salespeople to a meeting to discuss the current housing market. The discussion centered around the combined effect of depressed property values, inflated mortgages and the resulting number of foreclosures seen in Town. In December the Board held its annual Tax Classification hearing

raised the tax rate to \$11.47 at the recommendation of the Board of Assessors.

The community faced a critical challenge later that month when less than one week before Christmas the region was struck by a horrific ice storm. Athol officials & public safety personnel rose to the challenges and saw its residents thru the crisis. With most of the Town without power for the better part of three days an emergency shelter was created in Liberty Hall. Fire, Police, and the Department of Public Works crews worked around the clock ensuring the community’s safety. Many residents, Town, including two members of the Board, were still without power after a week. It was a trying time for the region but the Town of Athol did what it always does, pulled together and pulled through.

The Board Selectman initiated a series of meetings which brought together officials of each of the nine member Quabbin towns to begin discussion ways the towns can better share resources and assets. The Regionalization meetings were held quarterly.

During this time the Board was successful in selling the old Middle School at 494 School Street for \$750,000 to Stafford Associates. The company will renovate the building into senior housing. The Board also entered negotiations and made plans to purchase the Bidwell property on South Athol Road. The 100 or so acres will be set aside for future school construction.

It was a productive year for the Board and the Town of Athol. We are, once again, proud of what we accomplished.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alan D. Dodge, Chairman  
Philip D. King, Vice Chairman  
Anthony A. Brighenti  
Wayne E. Miller  
Susannah M. Lee

## **Athol Public Library**

### **Report of the Board of Library Trustees 2008-2009**

#### **To: The Board of Selectmen and Citizens of Athol**

And for the first time the library participated in Project Bread, a federal program that provides lunches free of charge to any person under 18. Our creative staff members Jean Shaughnessy, Anne Cutler-Russo and Karen McNiff not only managed this program but added programs after every lunch. These programs included Wii gaming, board games and nature walks. It was highly successful and we commend these energetic staff for taking on this major project which helped out many local residents and kept kids busy as well. They were also assisted by Brouillet interns Laura Caranfa and Jon Skinner together with Franklin Hampshire Training intern Dan King.

No report would be complete without some mention of the effects of the reduced budget this year. The town manager froze non-essential spending and positions that were vacated. While this meant very few new materials, the greater impact occurred when our assistant Jude Anderson accepted another position in Granite Falls Washington in November. Due the hiring freeze, we have not been able to fill this position resulting in the loss of computer classes, slowdown in delivery of services and loss of the volunteer/community service program among other things. As the director has had to do the essential parts of this job

on top of her already full workweek, the building program has fallen to the back burner. This vital position must be restored as soon as possible. It is ironic that as the public is demanding more and more of our library resources, the budget and staff are getting smaller. The town manager and Finance Committee voted not to fund the Saturday hours.

In other staff news, the library director signed a new three year contract with the town manager. We are very proud of Brianna Haskins who finished up her Bachelor's degree at UMass and was accepted into Simmons Library School for the fall semester. She also won one of only 50 spots in this year's Library Leadership Conference at Wheaton College. Director Deb Blanchard attended two of the three required Massachusetts Public Contracting and Construction Seminars in Boston. She successfully passed the exams with 100% scores.

The Board regretfully voted to deny borrowing privileges to residents of Hubbardston and Fitchburg as their libraries were de-certified this year.

In building news this year, we purchased a membership in the LEEDS program and got a \$3,000 grant from National Grid to join their Advanced Building Program. We were thrilled when Trustee Carol Ambrozy took on the challenge of studying to become a LEEDs certified professional. It was outstanding that she passed the test in June on the first try. This is tremendously difficult and a wonderful accomplishment. Plus it will be an incredible assist for our own building project, earning us points towards green certification.

Each year we update policies and procedures and this year was no exception. We updated the following policies: Laptop, Computer and Internet.

In building improvements Lambert Painting won the bid for painting our exterior windows while Old Yankee Masonry fixed the grout in our front steps. Several donations were received for Dottie's Garden and Anne Cutler-Russo continues to do a wonderful job maintaining it. This year she had help with the mulch from the North Quabbin Garden Club.

---

## **ATHOL HOUSING AUTHORITY**

### **ANNUAL REPORT**

7/1/09 – 6/30/10

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The Athol Housing Authority provides affordable housing to low and moderate income families, as well as to the elderly and disabled. Housing is available based on federal and state program regulations.

The Authority owns 78 Elderly/Handicapped units under the Massachusetts Chapter 667 Housing Program as well as 16 units of Family units under the Massachusetts Chapter 705 Housing Program.

Additionally, the Authority administers housing subsidies for 45 families under the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program and 58 families under the Federal Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Staff is made up of the following:

---

The Trustees like to acknowledge the numerous volunteer hours served by many individuals and groups, including the Friends of the Library, the town manager for his cooperation and the Athol DPW.

Respectfully submitted,

#### **Board of Library Trustees**

Margaret L. Young, Chairman  
Susie Feldman, Clerk  
Carol Ambrozy  
Sharon Brighenti  
Frank Foster  
J.R. Greene

Christi Martin, Executive  
Director/Secretary to the Board  
Sunda Grubb, Program Administrator  
Connie Parmenter,  
Clerk/Receptionist/Program  
Administrator  
Stephen Larry, Maintenance Supervisor

The Authority is overseen by the Board of Commissioners, which meet on a monthly basis. The board is made up of the following:

Cathy Savoy, Chairperson  
Edward Sawin, Vice-Chairperson  
Ted Ledgard, Treasurer  
Cathy Muzzy, Commissioner  
Charles Winn, Governor-Appointee  
The office of the Athol Housing Authority is located at 21 Morton Meadows and is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Phone 978-249-4848. Fax 978-249-9604.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christi Martin, Executive Director

## OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Athol

Governor Patrick held a town hall styled meeting at Fish Park open to everyone. He responded to numerous questions from the audience.



The Town received a grant and participated in a Landscape Heritage project. The project helped to identify key town features as important landscape heritage areas.

Athol's new upgraded web site is complete. It is more user friendly both for users and for maintainers. It can be checked out at [www.athol-ma.gov](http://www.athol-ma.gov).

The architect has completed most of the design work for the new senior center. We look forward to competitive bids and construction in the next fiscal year.

The new pavilion at Silver Lake is completed. This was done solely by volunteer and fundraising efforts and was part of Hands Across North Quabbin's efforts to get more people involved. Efforts included most clubs in Athol and Orange and numerous individual efforts.

Our Emergency Management Plan was tested as an ice storm took out power to most of the town. The Town Hall was used as an emergency shelter for those who could not stay in their own homes. Portions of the Town were without power for a week. Others got the power back only to lose it again for a time. The Fire Department and volunteers manned the shelter and provided meals to the needy. In appreciation of the fine volunteer work the Fire Department held a special spaghetti dinner in the a couple of months after things returned to normal.

The town of Athol received a grant from DOER for \$292,000 to make improvements in energy savings. Part of the funding includes new Town Hall windows and conversion of the Town Hall heating system from steam to forced hot water. Other items include a waste oil burner and new lighting at the DPW Mechanic Shop.

The Town sponsored a regional legislative breakfast. It was well attended by citizens and legislators.

Athol now has reverse 911 capability. This allows us to get information out to the community during emergencies.

The Personnel Board finished reviewing grades and steps for Union 888 and contracted personnel. There were numerous changes because it had been over 10 years since it was done.

A major upgrade to our Waste Water Treatment Plant was completed. The project increased capacity and efficiency. Total project cost was over \$8 Million.

The Memorial Hall Revitalization Fund Committee started an open mic program in Liberty Hall once per month. It is open to people for sign up. It provides local entertainers a venue to entertain.

The Equestrian Park held its first ever event. NEECA and other volunteers have done a fantastic job and we are all proud of their volunteer effort. After learning that the old Lake Street Playground wood structure contained arsenic the Town removed the structure and replaced it with a new state of the art playground. Thanks to the many volunteers and employees who pitched in to get the park back in to shape.

The Town converted a part of the landfill into a Recycling and Transfer Station. The station has proven to be a tremendous asset to the Town and its citizens.

The World Series Trophies were on display in Memorial Hall. Numerous people came to have their pictures taken with the two most current trophies.

Radio Broadcaster David Boeri came to Memorial Hall to do a program. The Town has also had the state use the hall for two regional training sessions.

The Town started an Energy Committee to help review potential green projects. The Town also requested and received a DOER energy audit on some of their buildings that should help us to determine which projects to move forward on.

The Town received grants for site 1 assessments for numerous properties

throughout the Town and will be applying for a grant to do a site 2 assessment for 51 School Street.

Athol fire and police personnel joined forces to locate the woman who kidnapped a young Athol girl by tracking her cell phone number using GPS. Kudos to both for a fantastic job! The girl is safe and the grandmother was taken into custody in Virginia.

Athol used the Sheriff's work furlough personnel to do selective interior demolition of the Senior Center new site. The architect continues to develop the bid specifications.

The Town of Athol held a charrette to redo our master plan. It will take place on the morning of a Saturday in March. The outcome was provided to the Board of Planning and Community Development who will spearhead the re-write.

The Town of Athol sponsored the first ever North Quabbin regionalization meeting. The meeting was the brain child of Selectmen Phil King. It was well received and a decision was made to have continuing meetings.

The Alan E. Rich Environmental Park has been designated as a butterfly friendly area. This is a direct result of the friends of the park planting specific items that attract butterflies. We are fortunate to have the Park and are very fortunate to have the friends of the Park.

Respectfully Submitted

David B. Ames, Town Manager





		<b>Receipts and Payments</b>	cont.
		<b>July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009</b>	
State Revenue:			
Abatements - Elderly		\$32,128	
Abatements - Vets; Blind; Surv.		\$0	
Additional Assistance General		\$3,950	
Lottery		\$2,565,032	
Veterans Benefits		\$126,555	
Police Incentive		\$53,720	
Reimbursement of Taxes - State Land		\$49,384	
Library - Direct		\$21,125	
Urban Redevelopment		<u>\$38,221</u>	
<b>Total State Revenue</b>			<b>\$2,890,115</b>
From Other Municipalities			<b>\$8,143</b>
Transfer From Other Funds			
Special Revenue Fund - Lot Sales		\$500	
Special Revenue Fund - Parking Meters		\$19,000	
Trust Fund(s)		\$35,000	
Enterprise Fund - Water		\$117,983	
Enterprise Fund - Sewer		\$119,591	
Enterprise Fund - Transfer Station		<u>\$13,004</u>	
<b>Total From Other Funds</b>			<b>\$305,078</b>
<b>Total General Fund Revenue</b>			<b><u>\$15,115,730</u></b>

Town of Athol  
Expense to Budget  
July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009

DIVISION/DEPARTMENT:	Budgeted	Expenses	Balance Remaining
Finance:			
Accounting	\$111,938	\$110,340	\$1,598
Assessors	\$100,027	\$98,459	\$1,568
Finance Committee	\$102,304	\$100,989	\$1,315
Capital Committee	\$1,270	\$1,117	\$153
Tax Collector	\$113,345	\$110,901	\$2,444
Treasurer/Debt Service	\$2,599,993	\$2,461,101	\$138,892
Total Finance:	\$3,028,877	\$2,882,907	\$145,970
Public Safety:			
Animal Control Office	\$39,660	\$37,360	\$2,300
Building Department	\$127,007	\$96,973	\$30,034
Board of Health	\$105,203	\$103,798	\$1,405
Police Department	\$1,431,445	\$1,429,193	\$2,252
Fire/Ambulance	\$1,465,680	\$1,460,718	\$4,962
Sealer - Weights & Measures	\$7,710	\$7,590	\$120
Wiring Inspector	\$21,719	\$21,206	\$513
Total Public Safety:	\$3,198,424	\$3,156,838	\$41,586
Public Service:			
Board of Selectmen	\$479,711	\$423,258	\$56,453
Council on Aging	\$82,746	\$53,816	\$28,930
Conservation Commission	\$17,556	\$13,484	\$4,072
Elections & Registration	\$21,294	\$20,162	\$1,132
Library	\$408,304	\$391,725	\$16,579
Parking Division	\$14,908	\$14,877	\$31
Personnel Board	\$350	\$250	\$100
Planning / Planning Board	\$176,181	\$172,673	\$3,508
Professional Services	\$232,180	\$221,772	\$10,408
Recreation Department	\$102,751	\$94,082	\$8,669
Town Buildings	\$145,275	\$140,425	\$4,850
Town Clerk	\$121,904	\$119,490	\$2,414
Town Manager	\$212,255	\$136,658	\$75,597
Veterans Services	\$195,291	\$195,291	\$0
Zoning Board of Appeals	\$4,240	\$2,241	\$1,999
Total Public Service:	\$2,214,946	\$2,000,204	\$214,742

	Budgeted	Expenses	Balance Remaining
Public Works:			
Administration	\$187,031	\$186,700	\$331
Highway Department	\$1,057,051	\$1,035,866	\$21,185
Cemetery Department	\$172,425	\$138,592	\$33,833
Park & Tree Department	\$206,000	\$155,958	\$50,042
Total Public Works:	\$1,622,507	\$1,517,116	\$105,391
Note: Prior Year(s) holdover amounts included in budgeted figures			
Other:			
Contributory Retirement	\$1,112,267	\$1,112,267	\$0
Total Contributory Retirement:	\$1,112,267	\$1,112,267	\$0
School Department:			
ARRSD	\$3,717,652	\$3,649,389	\$68,263
Vocational	\$169,675	\$169,675	\$0
Total School Department:	\$3,887,327	\$3,819,064	\$68,263
Assessments:			
Air Pollution Control	\$2,406	\$2,406	\$0
County Assessment	\$9,846	\$9,846	\$0
Franklin RTA	\$35,644	\$35,644	\$0
Chapter 90 Surcharge	\$22,640	\$22,640	\$0
Total Assessments:	\$70,536	\$70,536	\$0
TOTAL OPERATIONAL SPENDING:	\$15,134,884	\$14,558,932	\$575,952

Articles/Encumbrances:

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Selectmen Holdover	\$17,253.53
Clerk - Record Mgmt. 10/07	\$1,737.18
Replace Wiring - Mem. Bldg.	\$759.04
Repair Memorial Building	\$792.06
Town Manager - Litigation	\$55,070.00
Town Manager - Historical Comm.	\$10,000.00
Building Dept. - Secure Buildings	\$30,000.00
Accountant Laptop	\$1,500.00
Treasurer Foreclosures	\$9,000.00
Police	\$983.97
Fire	\$2,916.58

Conservation - Signs / Excavating	\$3,900.00	
Upgrade Buildings	\$331.59	
Bituminous Concrete	\$18,500.00	
Cemetery Improvements	\$754.49	
Park Holdover	\$1,165.00	
Town Buildings	\$39.75	
Professional Services	\$2,000.00	
Ice Storm Cleanup	\$7,000.00	
Community Health	\$500.00	
Copier Repairs	\$15.68	
Mileage	\$28.91	
Beaches	\$8,668.95	
AHS Bleachers	\$68,262.90	
		\$241,179.63
Capital Fund		
2003 Capital Plan	\$55,794.37	
2004 Capital Plan	\$30,156.00	
2005 Capital Plan	\$28,729.49	
2006 Capital Plan	\$127,714.12	
2007 Capital Plan	\$78,403.31	
2008 Capital Plan	\$290,274.47	
2009 Capital Plan	\$524,290.75	
		\$1,135,362.51
Water Fund		
2009 Capital Plan	\$28,000.00	
		\$28,000.00
Sewer Fund		
Improve WPS & T Plant	\$17,407.21	
2009 Capital Plan	\$61,000.00	
		\$78,407.21

Town of Athol  
Water Division  
Income Statement  
June 30, 2009

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Receipts:			
Water Charges	\$1,007,353.00	\$985,230.00	(\$22,123.00)
Water Service	\$41,000.00	\$24,073.00	(\$16,927.00)
Water X-Connections	\$5,000.00	\$13,055.00	\$8,055.00
Transfer from General	\$96,673.00	\$96,673.00	\$0.00
Total Water Revenue:	\$1,150,026.00	\$1,119,031.00	(\$30,995.00)
Expenses:			
Labor and Related	\$275,412.00	\$256,009.00	\$19,403.00
Utilities	\$210,000.00	\$209,314.00	\$686.00
Repair/Maintenance	\$93,500.00	\$75,975.00	\$17,525.00
Supplies/Equipment	\$129,600.00	\$128,743.00	\$857.00
Office Expenses	\$7,500.00	\$6,394.00	\$1,106.00
Services	\$24,650.00	\$18,420.00	\$6,230.00
Debt Service	\$271,420.00	\$271,418.00	\$2.00
Health Insurance	\$7,173.00	\$7,173.00	\$0.00
Overhead	\$117,983.00	\$117,983.00	\$0.00
Total Water Expense:	\$1,137,238.00	\$1,091,429.00	\$45,809.00
Net Income/(Loss):	<u>\$12,788.00</u>	<u>\$27,602.00</u>	

R/E Balance (6/30/08)	\$48,552.00
Audit Adjustment	\$29,581.00
2009 Budgeted Increase	\$12,788.00
2009 Additional	\$14,814.00
2010 Budgeted Use of R/E	(\$5,210.00)
2010 Capital Reserved	(\$28,000.00)
2009 R/E BALANCE	\$72,525.00

Town of Athol  
Sewer Division  
Income Statement  
June 30, 2009

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Receipts:			
Sewer Charges	\$1,181,300.00	\$1,061,320.00	(\$119,980.00)

Sewer Service	\$25,000.00	\$8,309.00	(\$16,691.00)
Use of Retained Earnings	\$114,973.00	\$114,973.00	\$0.00
Total Sewer Revenue:	\$1,321,273.00	\$1,184,602.00	(\$136,671.00)

Sewer Expenses:

Labor and Related	\$179,822.00	\$152,918.00	\$26,904.00
Utilities	\$172,300.00	\$164,157.00	\$8,143.00
Repair/Maintenance	\$47,100.00	\$26,037.00	\$21,063.00
Supplies/Equipment	\$118,300.00	\$169,416.00	(\$51,116.00)
Disposal	\$185,000.00	\$222,714.00	(\$37,714.00)
Services	\$31,270.00	\$14,909.00	\$16,361.00
Debt Service	\$432,031.00	\$424,638.00	\$7,393.00
Health Insurance	\$35,859.00	\$35,859.00	\$0.00
Overhead	\$119,591.00	\$119,591.00	\$0.00
Total Sewer Expense:	\$1,321,273.00	\$1,330,239.00	(\$8,966.00)

Net Income/(Loss):	\$0.00	(\$145,637.00)
--------------------	--------	----------------

R/E Balance (6/30/08)	\$426,813.00
Audit Adjustment	(\$15,252.00)
2009 Budgeted Use of R/E	(\$114,973.00)
2009 Additional Shortage	(\$145,637.00)
2009 Transfer In	\$137,919.00
2010 Budgeted Use of R/E	(\$70,114.00)
2010 Capital Reserved	(\$61,000.00)
2009 R/E BALANCE	\$157,756.00

Town of Athol  
Transfer Station  
Income Statement  
June 30, 2009

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Receipts:			
Charges	\$535,000.00	\$516,023.00	(\$18,977.00)
Use of Retained Earnings	\$29,049.00	\$29,049.00	\$0.00
Total Revenue:	\$564,049.00	\$545,072.00	(\$18,977.00)
Station Expenses:			
Labor and Related	\$70,258.00	\$69,051.00	\$1,207.00
Utilities	\$6,000.00	\$6,083.00	(\$83.00)
Supplies/Equipment	\$11,000.00	\$6,916.00	\$4,084.00

Disposal	\$384,920.00	\$370,697.00	\$14,223.00
Debt Service	\$59,800.00	\$65,643.00	(\$5,843.00)
Health Insurance	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$0.00
Overhead	\$13,004.00	\$13,004.00	\$0.00
Total Transfer Expense:	\$557,982.00	\$544,394.00	\$13,588.00
Net Income/(Loss):	<u>\$6,067.00</u>	<u>\$678.00</u>	

R/E Balance (6/30/08)	\$121,980.00
2009 Budgeted Use of R/E	(\$29,049.00)
2009 Additional Shortage	\$678.00
2009 R/E BALANCE	\$93,609.00



## Special Revenue Fund Grants- Federal Grants

### Community Block Grant

Beginning Balance	\$58,478
Revenues	\$2,044,073
Expenditures	\$2,072,594
Ending Balance	\$29,957

### Library Planning

Beginning Balance	\$21,034
Revenues	\$420
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$21,454

### LLEDG Federal Grant – 2004

Beginning Balance	\$1,617
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$1,617

### Sanitary Landfill Grant

Beginning Balance	\$134,465
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$18,784
Ending Balance	\$115,681

### Thousand Acre Dam Grant

Beginning Balance	\$0
Revenues	\$5,580
Expenditures	\$10,920
Ending Balance	(\$5,340)

### Cops More Grant

Beginning Balance	\$5,353
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$5,353

North Central Technical Assistance		
Beginning		
Balance	\$354	
Revenues	\$0	
Expenditures	\$0	
Ending Balance	\$354	

Lake Ellis Dam Grant		
Beginning Balance		\$31,211
Revenues		\$0
Expenditures		\$0
Ending Balance		\$31,211

**Total Federal Grants Summary:**

Beginning Balance	\$252,512
Revenues	\$2,050,073
Expenditures	\$2,102,298
Ending Balance	\$200,287

**State Grants**

Council on Aging Formula Grant		
Beginning		
Balance	\$345	
Revenues	\$17,522	
Expenditures	\$17,650	
Ending Balance	\$217	

Police DARE Grant		
Beginning Balance		\$4,307
Revenues		\$0
Expenditures		\$0
Ending Balance		\$4,307

Arts Lottery Grant		
Beginning		
Balance	\$7,694	
Revenues	\$7,567	
Expenditures	\$9,987	
Ending Balance	\$5,274	

Federal Bio-Terrorism Grant		
Beginning Balance		\$2,833
Revenues		\$0
Expenditures		\$613
Ending Balance		\$2,220

Pay As You Throw Grant		
Beginning		
Balance	\$0	
Revenues	\$3,160	
Expenditures	\$0	
Ending Balance	\$3,160	

Fire Emergency Planning Grant		
Beginning Balance		\$0
Revenues		\$2,500
Expenditures		\$0
Ending Balance		\$2,500

Council on Aging Sprague Grant		
Beginning		
Balance	\$2,000	
Revenues	\$0	
Expenditures	\$0	
Ending Balance	\$2,000	

Police Bullet Proof Vest		
Beginning Balance		\$2,949
Revenues		\$0
Expenditures		\$0
Ending Balance		\$2,949

Comm Septic System Grant		
Beginning		
Balance	\$1,405	

Election & Registration		
Beginning Balance		\$3,587

Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$1,405

Revenues	\$1,720
Expenditures	\$4,247
Ending Balance	\$1,060

#### Board Of Health Skin Cancer Grant

Beginning Balance	\$855
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$855

#### Library Grant

Beginning Balance	\$44,655
Revenues	\$26,077
Expenditures	\$5,988
Ending Balance	\$64,744

#### Board of Health Composting Grant

Beginning Balance	\$125
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$125

#### Fire SAFE Grant

Beginning Balance	\$4,734
Revenues	\$3,665
Expenditures	\$2,775
Ending Balance	\$5,624

#### Community Police Grant

Beginning Balance	\$56,296
Revenues	\$32,213
Expenditures	\$49,131
Ending Balance	\$39,378

#### Police VOWA Grant

Beginning Balance	\$292
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$292

#### Sewer Rate Relief Grant

Beginning Balance	\$14,739
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$14,739

#### Assistance to Firefighters Grant

Beginning Balance	(\$108,636)
Revenues	\$127,027
Expenditures	\$18,391
Ending Balance	\$0

### State Grants

cont.

#### Ambulance Task Force Grant

Beginning Balance	\$1,000
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$1,000

#### COA Boyton Grant

Beginning Balance	\$705
Revenues	\$128
Expenditures	\$833
Ending Balance	\$0

#### 43D Expedite Grant

Beginning Balance	\$119,753
Revenues	\$26,180
Expenditures	\$139,230
Ending Balance	\$6,703

#### Emergency Planning Grant

Beginning Balance	\$1,500
Revenues	\$1,800
Expenditures	\$750
Ending Balance	\$2,550

MIIA Sewer Grant		
Beginning Balance		
Balance	\$6,250	
Revenues	\$0	
Expenditures	\$6,250	
Ending Balance	\$0	

Energy Audit Grant		
Beginning Balance		\$0
Revenues		\$0
Expenditures		\$452
Ending Balance		(\$452)

Total State Grants Summary:

Beginning Balance	\$167,388
Revenues	\$249,559
Expenditures	\$256,297
Ending Balance	\$160,650

## Other Special Revenue Funds

Council on Aging Special		
Beginning		
Balance	\$23,458	
Revenues	\$5,988	
Expenditures	\$3,310	
Ending Balance	\$26,136	

DARE Donations		
Beginning Balance		\$1,663
Revenues		\$0
Expenditures		\$176
Ending Balance		\$1,487

Council on Aging		
Parmenter		
Beginning		
Balance	\$1,936	
Revenues	\$2,000	
Expenditures	\$1,640	
Ending Balance	\$2,296	

Teen Task Force		
Beginning Balance		\$2,555
Revenues		\$304
Expenditures		\$0
Ending Balance		\$2,859

Bunzl Extrusion/Construction Dynamics		
Beginning		
Beginning		
Balance	\$889	
Revenues	\$0	
Expenditures	\$0	
Ending Balance	\$889	

Care of Animals Donations		
Beginning Balance		\$145
Revenues		\$27,024
Expenditures		\$23,770
Ending Balance		\$3,399

Parmenter Large Print		
Beginning		
Balance	\$4,429	
Revenues	\$2,500	
Expenditures	\$2,627	
Ending Balance	\$4,302	

Bearsden Donation		
Beginning Balance		\$70
Revenues		\$0
Expenditures		\$0
Ending Balance		\$70

Other Special Revenue Funds

cont.

Fire Department Donations		
Beginning		
Balance	\$1,937	
Revenues	\$610	
Expenditures	\$1,372	
Ending		
Balance	\$1,175	

Library Memorial Book		
Beginning		
Balance	\$3,751	
Revenues	\$308	
Expenditures	\$701	
Ending		
Balance	\$3,358	

Police K-9 Donations		
Beginning		
Balance	\$7,529	
Revenues	\$11,480	
Expenditures	\$11,058	
Ending		
Balance	\$7,951	

Police Donations		
Beginning		
Balance	\$1,264	
Revenues	\$500	
Expenditures	\$0	
Ending		
Balance	\$1,764	

Mass. Decon. Unit Training		
Beginning		
Balance	\$7,000	
Revenues	\$3,000	
Expenditures	\$139	
Ending		
Balance	\$9,861	

Light Donations		
Beginning		
Balance	\$622	
Revenues	\$0	
Expenditures	\$0	
Ending		
Balance	\$622	

Safety Education Fund		
Beginning		
Balance	\$322	
Revenues	\$0	
Expenditures	\$0	
Ending		
Balance	\$322	

Drug Forfeiture		
Beginning		
Balance	\$28,359	
Revenues	\$3,816	
Expenditures	\$8,535	
Ending		
Balance	\$23,640	

Community Safety Day - Police		
Beginning		
Balance	\$525	
Revenues	\$0	
Expenditures	\$0	
Ending		
Balance	\$525	

Fish Park Donations		
Beginning		
Balance	\$1,715	
Revenues	\$0	
Expenditures	\$0	
Ending		
Balance	\$1,715	

ACO Facility Donations		
Beginning		
Balance	\$190	
Revenues	\$0	
Expenditures	\$0	
Ending		
Balance	\$190	

Recreation Commission Donations		
Beginning		
Balance	\$7,866	
Revenues	\$14,622	
Expenditures	\$2,519	
Ending		
Balance	\$19,969	

Memorial Hall  
Revitalization

Beginning	
Balance	\$15,272
Revenues	\$3,273
Expenditures	\$375
Ending Balance	\$18,170

Get the Lead Out Program

Beginning Balance	\$29,231
Revenues	\$133,600
Expenditures	\$162,481
Ending Balance	\$350

ACO Van Donations

Beginning	
Balance	\$0
Revenues	\$1,090
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$1,090

Veteran's Park Donations

Beginning Balance	\$0
Revenues	\$900
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$900

Building / Fire Dept. Fines

Beginning	
Balance	\$0
Revenues	\$700
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$700

Other Special Revenue Funds

cont.

Shade Tree Commission

Beginning	
Balance	\$0
Revenues	\$250
Expenditures	\$0
Ending	
Balance	\$250

Other Special Funds Summary:

Beginning Balance	\$140,728
Revenues	\$211,965
Expenditures	\$218,703
Ending Balance	\$133,990

Receipts Reserved for Appropriation

Parking Meters

Beginning	
Balance	\$57,595
Revenues	\$13,871
Expenditures	\$0
Transfers	\$19,000
Ending Balance	\$52,466

Reserve for Ambulance Expense

Beginning Balance	\$46,556
Revenues	\$86,552
Expenditures	\$0
Transfers	\$0
Ending Balance	\$133,108

Equipment Rental

Beginning	
Balance	\$2,408

Sale of Real Estate Proceeds

Beginning Balance	\$201,239
-------------------	-----------

Revenues	\$312
Expenditures	\$0
Transfers	\$0
Ending Balance	\$2,720

Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$15,507
Transfers	\$30,000
Ending Balance	\$155,732

Sale of Cemetery Lots

Beginning Balance	\$1,515
Revenues	\$195
Expenditures	\$0
Transfers	\$500
Ending Balance	\$1,210

Conservation Fund

Beginning Balance	\$1,109
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Transfers	\$0
Ending Balance	\$1,109

Receipts Reserved for  
Appropriation Summary:

Beginning Balance	\$310,422
Revenues	\$100,930
Expenditures	\$0
Transfers	\$49,500
Ending Balance	\$346,345

---

Revolving Funds

Chapt 525 Insurance Reimbursement

Beginning Balance	\$3,464
Revenues	\$14,475
Expenditures	\$12,051
Ending Balance	\$5,888

Workmans Comp. Self Insurance

Beginning Balance	\$24,541
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$24,541

Conservation Fund

Beginning Balance	\$17,745
Revenues	\$5,555
Expenditures	\$3,665
Ending Balance	\$19,635

Revolving Funds Summary:

Beginning Balance	\$45,750
Revenues	\$20,030
Expenditures	\$15,716
Ending Balance	\$50,064

Agency and Trust

Plumbing Inspector Fees

Beginning Balance	\$4,300.00
Revenues	\$8,106.00
Expenditures	\$9,929.00
Ending Balance	\$2,477.00

Canal Street Property

Beginning Balance	\$8,178.00
Revenues	\$0.00
Expenditures	\$0.00
Ending Balance	\$8,178.00

Gas Inspector Fees

Beginning Balance	\$2,953.00
Revenues	\$1,125.00
Expenditures	\$880.00
Ending Balance	\$3,198.00

Agency & Trust

Beginning Balance	\$21,555.00
Revenues	\$175,250.00
Expenditures	\$192,260.00
Ending Balance	\$4,545.00

Div. of Fisheries & Wildlife

Beginning Balance	\$1,839.00
Revenues	\$7,856.00
Expenditures	\$7,856.00
Ending Balance	\$1,839.00

Deputy Tax Collector

Beginning Balance	\$23.00
Revenues	\$37,135.00
Expenditures	\$36,734.00
Ending Balance	\$424.00

Chapter 773

Beginning Balance	\$22,506.00
Revenues	\$277,837.00
Expenditures	\$279,770.00
Ending Balance	\$20,573.00

Fire Arms & Licenses

Beginning Balance	\$7,225.00
Revenues	\$10,875.00
Expenditures	\$5,050.00
Ending Balance	\$13,050.00

Trench Permit Account

Beginning Balance	\$0.00
Revenues	\$50.00
Expenditures	\$0.00
Ending Balance	\$50.00

Board of Health Septic

Beginning Balance	\$28,523.00
Revenues	\$2,019.00
Expenditures	\$28,129.00
Ending Balance	\$2,413.00

Board of Health Compost Bins

Beginning Balance	\$2,515.00
Revenues	\$3,029.00
Expenditures	\$3,493.00
Ending Balance	\$2,051.00

Building Dept. Outside Detail

Beginning Balance	\$252.00
Revenues	\$120.00
Expenditures	\$0.00
Ending Balance	\$372.00

Agency & Trust Summary:

Beginning Balance	\$99,869.00
Revenues	\$523,402.00
Expenditures	\$564,101.00
Ending Balance	\$59,170.00

Non-Expendable Trust Funds  
Revenue & Expenditures

Spaight School Fund

Beginning Balance	\$1,000
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0

Craigin Downing Library Fund

Beginning Balance	\$6,700
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0



Ending Balance	\$1,000
Charles Cooke School Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$3,000
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$3,000

Gertrude Hale Scholarship Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$102,620
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$102,620

Lyman Ward School Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$1,000
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$1,000

Edwin C. Hale Library Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$102,221
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$102,221

Kate Fay Library Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$26,000
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$26,000

Fay Johnstone Library Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$500
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$500

Adele Parmenter Library Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$500
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$500

Millers River Translator Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$227

Ending Balance	\$6,700
Richard B. Ellis Memorial Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$1,002
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$1,002

Barbara Dexter Library Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$500
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$500

Dr. Talcott Memorial Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$565
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$565

Martha Talcott Memorial Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$4,375
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$4,375

Russell Field Library Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$1,000
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$1,000

Talcott Historical	
Beginning Balance	\$153
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$153

Waterman Flower Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$300
Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$300

Wilder Flower Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$300

Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$227

Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$300

---

Non-Expendable Trust Funds  
Revenue & Expenditures

con't.

Gladys Green Library Fund  
Beginning Balance

\$225

Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$225

Kate Fay Flower Fund  
Beginning Balance

\$400

Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$400

Herbert L. Bartlet Library Fund  
Beginning Balance

\$1,000

Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$1,000

Allen Warrell Flower Fund  
Beginning Balance

\$500

Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$500

Helen E. Aiken Library Fund  
Beginning Balance

\$33

Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$33

Charles Everett Flower Fund  
Beginning Balance

\$500

Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$500

A. Harding Library Fund  
Beginning Balance

\$300

Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$300

H.C. Morse Flower Fund  
Beginning Balance

\$300

Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$300

Marion Crane Flower Fund  
Beginning Balance

\$500

Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$500

Phillips Flower Fund  
Beginning Balance

\$300

Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$300

Morse Davidson Flower Fund  
Beginning Balance

\$300

Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$300

Hale Flower Fund  
Beginning Balance

\$300

Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$300

Winnie Burnham Flower Fund

Sprague Charity Fund

	Beginning Balance	\$300		Beginning Balance	\$3,000
	Revenues	\$0		Revenues	\$0
	Expenditures	\$0		Expenditures	\$0
	Ending Balance	\$300		Ending Balance	\$3,000
Albert Drury Flower Fund			Cemetery General Fund		
	Beginning Balance	\$300		Beginning Balance	\$519,778
	Revenues	\$0		Revenues	\$3,542
	Expenditures	\$0		Expenditures	\$8,008
	Ending Balance	\$300		Ending Balance	\$515,312
Elizabeth Cropper Flower Fund			Gamon Flower Fund		
	Beginning Balance	\$300		Beginning Balance	\$500
	Revenues	\$0		Revenues	\$0
	Expenditures	\$0		Expenditures	\$0
	Ending Balance	\$300		Ending Balance	\$500

---

Non-Expendable Trust Funds  
Revenue & Expenditures

con't.

Majorie Hill Flower Fund			Melvina Lukus Library Fund		
	Beginning Balance	\$500		Beginning Balance	\$4,684
	Revenues	\$0		Revenues	\$0
	Expenditures	\$0		Expenditures	\$0
	Ending Balance	\$500		Ending Balance	\$4,684
White Taylor Boland Flower Fund			Ruby Cook Library Trust		
	Beginning Balance	\$150		Beginning Balance	\$32,220
	Revenues	\$0		Revenues	\$0
	Expenditures	\$0		Expenditures	\$0
	Ending Balance	\$150		Ending Balance	\$32,220
Nellie Byron Fountain Fund			McGuirk Flower Fund		
	Beginning Balance	\$4,452		Beginning Balance	\$300
	Revenues	\$0		Revenues	\$0
	Expenditures	\$0		Expenditures	\$0
	Ending Balance	\$4,452		Ending Balance	\$300
Cemetery Tomb Fund			Johnson Library Trust Fund		
	Beginning Balance	\$2,000		Beginning Balance	\$960
	Revenues	\$0		Revenues	\$0
	Expenditures	\$0		Expenditures	\$0

Ending Balance	\$2,000	Ending Balance	\$960
Magranis/Davenport Library Fund		Amelia Gibson Library Trust	
Beginning Balance	\$10,000	Beginning Balance	\$78,261
Revenues	\$0	Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0	Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$10,000	Ending Balance	\$78,261
Willey Flower Fund		Coffin Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$300	Beginning Balance	\$300
Revenues	\$0	Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0	Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$300	Ending Balance	\$300
Lillian Plotkin Scholarship Fund		Nye Library Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$10,000	Beginning Balance	\$2,000
Revenues	\$0	Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0	Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$10,000	Ending Balance	\$2,000
Thomas Flower Fund		Frawley Flower Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$325	Beginning Balance	\$300
Revenues	\$0	Revenues	\$0
Expenditures	\$0	Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$325	Ending Balance	\$300
H & C Brouillet Library Trust		C. Brouillet Apprenticeship Trust	
Beginning Balance	\$5,000	Beginning Balance	\$579,180
Revenues	\$0	Revenues	\$8,636
Expenditures	\$0	Expenditures	\$17,259
Ending Balance	\$5,000	Ending Balance	\$570,557

Non-  
Expendable  
Trust Fund  
Summary:

Beginning Balance	\$1,511,731
Revenues	\$12,178
Expenditures	\$25,267
Ending Balance	\$1,498,642

Expendable Trust Funds  
Revenue & Expenditures

con't.

Fay Johnstone Library Fund		Talcott Historical Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$1,581	Beginning Balance	\$993
Revenues	\$67	Revenues	\$37
Expenditures	\$0	Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$1,648	Ending Balance	\$1,030
Adele Parmenter Library Fund		Morse Davidson Flower Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$3,232	Beginning Balance	\$880
Revenues	\$120	Revenues	\$38
Expenditures	\$0	Expenditures	\$34
Ending Balance	\$3,352	Ending Balance	\$884
Millers River Translator Fund		Waterman Flower Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$1,427	Beginning Balance	\$1,080
Revenues	\$53	Revenues	\$45
Expenditures	\$0	Expenditures	\$33
Ending Balance	\$1,480	Ending Balance	\$1,092
Gladys Green Library Fund		Wilder Flower Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$2,610	Beginning Balance	\$678
Revenues	\$91	Revenues	\$32
Expenditures	\$0	Expenditures	\$34
Ending Balance	\$2,701	Ending Balance	\$676
Herbert L. Bartlett Library Fund		White Taylor Boland Flower Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$8,940	Beginning Balance	\$390
Revenues	\$320	Revenues	\$18
Expenditures	\$0	Expenditures	\$15
Ending Balance	\$9,260	Ending Balance	\$393
Library Book Fund		Kate Fay Flower Fund	

Beginning Balance	\$136	Beginning Balance	\$1,122
Revenues	\$4	Revenues	\$50
Expenditures	\$0	Expenditures	\$46
Ending Balance	\$140	Ending Balance	\$1,126
Helen Aiken Library Fund		Allen Warrell Flower Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$415	Beginning Balance	\$1,497
Revenues	\$14	Revenues	\$65
Expenditures	\$0	Expenditures	\$56
Ending Balance	\$429	Ending Balance	\$1,506
A. Harding Library Fund		Charles Everett Flower Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$2,291	Beginning Balance	\$2,056
Revenues	\$84	Revenues	\$83
Expenditures	\$0	Expenditures	\$41
Ending Balance	\$2,375	Ending Balance	\$2,098
Marion Crane Flower Fund		Morse Flower Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$1,506	Beginning Balance	\$547
Revenues	\$65	Revenues	\$28
Expenditures	\$45	Expenditures	\$34
Ending Balance	\$1,526	Ending Balance	\$541

---

Expendable Trust Funds con't.  
Revenue & Expenditures

Phillips Flower Fund		Cemetery Tomb Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$731	Beginning Balance	\$25,647
Revenues	\$33	Revenues	\$892
Expenditures	\$33	Expenditures	\$82
Ending Balance	\$731	Ending Balance	\$26,457
Hale Flower Fund		Sprague Charity Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$512	Beginning Balance	\$34,435
Revenues	\$27	Revenues	\$1,207
Expenditures	\$34	Expenditures	\$0
Ending Balance	\$505	Ending Balance	\$35,642
Winnie Burnham Flower Fund		Cemetery General Care Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$555	Beginning Balance	\$183,345
Revenues	\$28	Revenues	\$24,528
Expenditures	\$34	Expenditures	\$5,877
Ending Balance	\$549	Ending Balance	\$201,996



Lake Park Fund			A. Gibson Library Trust Fund		
Beginning Balance	\$6,622		Beginning Balance	\$33,566	
Revenues	\$3,310		Revenues	\$3,605	
Expenditures	\$0		Expenditures	\$0	
Ending Balance	\$9,932		Ending Balance	\$37,171	
Charles Starrett Library Fund			Library Capital Improvements		
Beginning Balance	\$23,926		Beginning Balance	\$5,568	
Revenues	\$771		Revenues	\$5,354	
Expenditures	\$0		Expenditures	\$5,396	
Ending Balance	\$24,697		Ending Balance	\$5,526	
McGuirk Flower Fund			Nye Library Trust		
Beginning Balance	\$190		Beginning Balance	\$605	
Revenues	\$16		Revenues	\$84	
Expenditures	\$0		Expenditures	\$0	
Ending Balance	\$206		Ending Balance	\$689	
Johnson Library Trust Fund			Thomas Flower Fund		
Beginning Balance	\$392		Beginning Balance	\$16	
Revenues	\$43		Revenues	\$11	
Expenditures	\$0		Expenditures	\$11	
Ending Balance	\$435		Ending Balance	\$16	
Frawley Flower Fund			C. Brouillet Apprenticeship Fund		
Beginning Balance	\$57		Beginning Balance	\$58,651	
Revenues	\$12		Revenues	\$24,290	
Expenditures	\$0		Expenditures	\$43,836	
Ending Balance	\$69		Ending Balance	\$39,105	
H & C Brouillet Library Fund			Insurance Stabilization Account		
Beginning Balance	\$574		Beginning Balance	\$0	
Revenues	\$180		Revenues	\$25,000	
Expenditures	\$16		Expenditures	\$0	
Ending Balance	\$738		Ending Balance	\$25,000	
Bassett Trust - Police			Bassett Trust - Fire		
Beginning Balance	\$0		Beginning Balance	\$0	
Revenues	\$100,883		Revenues	\$100,883	
Expenditures	\$0		Expenditures	\$0	
Ending Balance	\$100,883		Ending Balance	\$100,883	

Expendable Trust Fund Summary:



Beginning Balance	\$1,163,018
Revenues	\$320,007
Expenditures	\$61,836
Ending Balance	\$1,421,189

REPORT OF THE TOWN TREASURER					
FOR THE PERIOD					
JULY 1, 2008 - JUNE 30, 2009					
RECEIPTS:					
Cash on Hand July 1, 2008			6,474,565.79		
Tax Collector Receipts		9,911,808.96			
Other Receipts		11,694,316.44	21,606,125.40		
					28,080,691.19
DISBURSEMENTS:					
Payment per weekly warrant issued by the Town Accountant and Selectmen					23,545,776.18
Cash on Hand June 30, 2009					4,534,915.01
TRUST FUND BALANCE:	2,970,948.57				

## OFFICE OF THE TOWN COLLECTOR

### ANNUAL REPORT JULY 1, 2008-JUNE 30, 2009

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen  
And Citizens of Athol:

Total receipts collected in fiscal year 2008-2009 \$12,522,518.93

	Amount Collected	Balance Due
2009 Real Estate Tax	8,714,963.28	389,380.03
Personal Property	216,222.79	12,280.43

	Septic Betterments	8,776.85	3,627.82
	Motor Vehicle Excise	674,117.20	100,376.69
2008	Real Estate Tax	177,029.87	154,853.77
	Personal Property	1,056.98	1,181.70
	Motor Vehicle Excise	306,510.48	42,110.23
2007	Real Estate Tax	50,011.09	77,350.19
	Personal Property	400.21	441.79
	Motor Vehicle Excise	27,948.92	24,323.24
2006	Real Estate Tax	25,001.08	7,855.02
	Personal Property	192.95	376.62
	Motor Vehicle Excise	8,598.42	17,483.10
2005	Real Estate Tax	2,841.49	161.31
	Personal Property	133.44	353.73
	Motor Vehicle Excise	6,812.29	13,032.89
	Previous Years – 2004 Excise	2,917.58	52,076.12
	Cemetery	20,060.00	3,886.00
	Equipment Rental	312.00	84.00
	Water Cross Connections	13,055.00	681.00
	Water Rates	985,049.82	141,164.60
	Sewer Rates	1,062,645.35	138,032.06
	Water Service	21,097.77	7,700.38
	Sewer Service	3,810.30	2,314.75
	Water Liens	1,730.67	
Fees Collected:			
	Municipal Liens	11,800.00	
	Registry of Motor Vehicle Fees	18,180.00	
	Parking Tickets	10,850.00	
	Mobile Home Fees	19,152.00	
	Interest On Excise Tax	44,092.75	
	Interest On Property Tax	55,523.45	
	Interest On Water and Sewer	24,897.13	
	Payment In Lieu of Taxes	4,314.02	
	Roll Back Taxes	2,413.75	
Respectfully Submitted: Karen M. Stoddard, Town Collector			

---

## **ATHOL BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

### **Annual Report**

### **2008-2009**

The Fiscal 2009 values were based on the new Interim Adjustment, now done yearly. These new values were based on figures as approved by the DOR for property sales during 2007. Real Estate sales show an increase in property values in all areas and types of properties across town. The State requires each city/town to conduct Interim Adjustments for any and all property types that have either increased or decreased in sales values more than 10%. Residential Land decreased approx. 4%. The next triannual revaluation will

be for FY2010. In light of the current economy, there may be a larger decrease in values then the average year even with the yearly Interim Adjustments that have gone along with the current sales market. Members of the Board are, Kenneth Vaidulas, Chairman, Heather Brissette and Lisa Aldrich. Jean Robinson is the Asst. Assessor.

### **ASSESSING STATISTICS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009:**

Total amount to be raised	\$ 19,947,617.95
Est. Receipts/other revenue	\$ 10,569,707.90
Tax Levy	\$ 9,377,910.05
Tax Rate	\$ 11.47

There were 188 exemptions granted to residents of Athol for a tax amount of \$90,657.00. Of this amount, \$48,900.75 is given out to qualifying veterans and or their wives.

The Town has established a Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund as well as a Transfer Station Enterprise Fund. Funds will be used to offset expenses for both.

The Board of Assessors committed during Fiscal 2009 to the Collector \$9,166,538.39 for Real Estate; \$211,549.87 for Personal Property; \$918,824 for Excise, \$9,902.67 for Title V Betterment's, \$3079.77 for Roll Back Taxes. With the change in the collection policy (shut

off's), there were no Water and Sewer Lien's committed during FY09. During FY2009 the Board granted \$314.27 in Personal Property Abatements and \$11,286.92 in Real Estate Abatements. There was also an additional \$1,962.87 abated for personal property accounts for the period of 2000-2007. A total of \$15,758.46 was given out to those that qualified for the Work Off Program.

Respectfully submitted,  
ATHOL BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Kenneth A. Vaidulas, Chairman  
Lisa Aldrich  
Heather Brissette  
Jean W. Robinson, Asst. Assessor



## **ATHOL FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009**



### **To: The Honorable Board of Selectpersons and The Citizens of Athol**

The Fire Department has had a good year. We re-implemented non-emergency ambulance transfer services. We are doing the amount of ambulance work we did with 23 full-time personnel with only 18 full-time personnel. It has been a challenge but we are getting the job done. We significantly exceeded our projection of ambulance revenue which has more than offset the cost of adding four additional firefighters (they are included in the above total of 18). The ambulance service revenue collection for FY-2009 was approximately \$873,876.

Fire Station #1 is in very poor condition and is falling apart and a solution needs to be found as soon as possible. In the interest of public safety the fire department recommends locating a second fire station downtown. Not having a downtown presence adds a minimum of three (3) minutes to the emergency response time because of the travel distance. At least 60% of the fire and ambulance calls are in the downtown district.

The department received a \$3,664 SAFE Grant from the State. These funds were used to provide fire safety education to the elementary school children and other related fire prevention activities. The department also received a \$3,000 grant from the State for mass decontamination training and \$5,296 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant from the State which we used to purchase 6 radio communication interface units for our self contained breathing apparatus.

The Fire Department still continues to issue free battery operated smoke detectors to any resident in need. The detectors are

generously donated by Dugas Music of Athol. The department cannot stress how important it is to have smoke detection in the home. If there are any citizens in need of detectors please call 978-249-8275. We will assist with the installation of the detectors if necessary.

**MASS. STATE LAW NOW REQUIRES CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS IN ALL HOMES WITH FOSSIL FUEL APPLIANCES OR AN ATTACHED GARAGE!! Contact Deputy Chief Tom Lozier for details.**

The department also offers free home safety inspections. We will conduct a quick inspection of your home and give you a report of any safety concerns that should be addressed. This is essentially an outsider's perspective because we all tend to have blinders on in our own homes and don't see some potential hazards. You can call 978-249-8275 to set up an inspection.

The Fire Alarm Division reports that the municipal fire alarm system is in good working order. The division has had numerous service calls for the system over the past year especially during the December Ice Storm which required several repairs. The division put one new master box online, Box 2272 – Congregational Church on Chestnut Street. The division has been continuously upgrading the system's wiring from the old #10 wire to the modern "C" wire. The fire alarm system is a swift and efficient way to directly transmit an alarm to the fire department. The system is connected

to all schools and many churches and businesses thus protecting millions of dollars worth of property.

### **FIRE VEHICLE STATISTICS**

<b>Vehicle</b>	<b>Make</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Mileage</b>
----------------	-------------	-------------	----------------

Engine 1	Maxim	1976	36,183
----------	-------	------	--------

Comments: Reserve Pumper – Not front line.

Used for Regional Rapid Intervention Team

Engine 2	Central	2006	3,712
----------	---------	------	-------

Comments: Brush-Quick Attack.

Engine 3	Central	1998	21,288
----------	---------	------	--------

Comments: Vehicle is in good condition.

Engine 4	E-One	1984	31,799
----------	-------	------	--------

Comment: Vehicle is in fair condition. The body is showing significant signs of corrosion.

Ladder 1	E-One	2006	4,641
----------	-------	------	-------

Comment: Vehicle is in new condition.

Tanker 1	AMGeneral	1980	9,025
----------	-----------	------	-------

Comment: Vehicle is in good condition.

Military surplus converted to a fire truck.

Brush 2	Farrah	1970	10,376
---------	--------	------	--------

Comment: Vehicle is in fair condition.

Brush 9	Chevrolet	1985	31,401
---------	-----------	------	--------

Comments: Vehicle in fair condition.

Military surplus converted to a brush utility vehicle.

Command	Chevrolet	2002	33,597
---------	-----------	------	--------

Comments: Good Condition.

Utility	Ford	2005	38,970
---------	------	------	--------

Comments: Excellent Condition.

Fire Alarm	Ford	1980	16,293
------------	------	------	--------

Comments: Fair condition. Beginning to rust.

Ambulance1	Ford	2003	63,896
------------	------	------	--------

Comments: Good Condition.

Ambulance2	Ford	2008	32,945
------------	------	------	--------

Comments: Very Good Condition.

Ambulance3	Ford	1998	70,658
------------	------	------	--------

Comments: Good condition.

The department issued 1,396 open air Burning Permits for the 2009 burning season between January 15<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup>.



### **FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLS FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009**

Fires	67
Overpressure Rupture,	
Explosion – No Fire	2
Rescues	184
Hazardous Condition	137
Service Call	566
Good Intent Call	153
False Alarm/Call	116
Flood/Lightning Strike	3
Special Incident Type	30
Ambulance Transport Calls	2,160
Smoke Detector Inspection.	184
Oil Burner Inspections	115
Oil Tank Install Inspection.	18
Propane Tank Inspections	64
Oil Tank Removal Inspect.	11
Fire Report Requests	10
Fuel Dispenser Inspections	11
General Permits Issued	19

School Inspections	28
Fire Drills	24
Nursing Home Inspections	4
Assisted Living Inspections	4
Clinic Inspections	16
Hospital Inspections	4

-----  
**Total Calls For Service 3,930**

The Fire Department wishes to thank the Town Manager, Board of Selectmen and the citizens of Athol for all their support and assistance throughout the year. If any citizen has any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the department at 978-249-8275.

Respectfully,

James W. Wright, Fire Chief

---

## **ATHOL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 09**

**To: The Honorable Board of  
Selectpersons and the Citizens of  
Athol**

The Emergency Management Department (formerly Civil Defense) has been continually taking steps to plan and prepare for major emergencies. The Town now has a small supply of approximately 100 cots and blankets for emergency shelter needs. The Town's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) has been updated and is tied in to the State's electronic management software via the web. Additionally, ongoing National Incident Management System (NIMS) training, planning and reporting is occurring as required by Presidential Directive. The NIMS compliance is now required in order to receive any emergency preparedness or public safety federal grants.

The department will continue to seek grant funds to obtain preparedness equipment. One major goal of ours is to equip the Middle School with an emergency backup generator; to replace the Town Hall generator with the appropriate size for the facility; and to purchase a mobile generator that can be used to temporarily power fueling pumps; building heating systems etc. These items have been submitted for inclusion in the Town's Capital Plan.

The Emergency Management Department is looking for volunteers to staff a Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT) to help during major emergencies or events, anyone interested should contact Deputy Lozier. Planning has begun for a Fall 09 CERT training class. If any citizen has any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the department at 978-249-8275.

Respectfully,

Fire Chief James W. Wright  
Emergency Management Director

---

**Athol Police Department**



## **Fiscal Year 2009 Annual Report**

With another fiscal year has passed and the Athol Police Department still finds itself severally understaffed, but the men and women of the department continue to provide a superior level of service in a professional manner.

Although grant funds have been dwindling, we have found ways of continuing our School Resource Officer and DARE programs, thanks in large part to the generosity of our personnel who routinely

volunteer their time towards these efforts, as well as donations from the public.

We at the police department are greatly appreciative of these types of public donations. They are invaluable during times of fiscal constraint, and help us to provide much needed police services to the community.



The staff at the police department is dedicated to our mission of preventing and reducing crime in the community, and providing the services that increase the quality of life for all of Athol's residence.

I would commend each and every member of the department for the dedication and devotion to duty that they have shown throughout this fiscal year. Their performance during these trying times has been exceptional.

I would like to thank all of the other town department, committees, officers, agents, and elected officials for there continue support of the efforts of the police department.

Finally, I would like to thank the residents of the Town of Athol for their support of the police department.

Sincerely,

**Timothy C. Anderson**  
**Chief of Police**

### **Calls for Service**

Total Calls for Service	14,400
-------------------------	--------

### **Crime Statistics FY 2009**

<b>Total Offenses Reported</b>	<b>1813</b>
Criminal Homicide	0
Manslaughter	0
Kidnapping/Abduction	2
Rape	9
Robbery	5
Aggravated Assault	43
Simple Assault	100
Intimidation	13
Arson	5
Burglary / B&E	185
Shoplifting	33
Larceny – Theft (no vehicles)	188
Motor Vehicle Theft Total	12
Counterfeiting/Forgery	13
Fraud	18
Vandalism	207
Drug/Narcotics Violation	53
Weapons Law Violation	7
Disorderly Conduct	26
OUI	47
Liquor Law Violation	13
Town Bylaw Violation	296
All Other Violations	538

<b>Total Arrests</b>	<b>281</b>
Juvenile Arrests	22
Domestic Violence Arrests	109

**Persons Summoned to Court 256**

**Persons Held in Protective Custody 35**

#### **Traffic Statistics FY 2009**

<b>M/V Citations</b>	<b>521</b>
Civil 130	
Warning 269	
Arrest 74	
Criminal 48	

**Parking Tickets 1199**

<b>M/V Accidents</b>	<b>430</b>
Over \$1000	221
Under \$1000	209

#### **Accident Injuries-**

Fatality	1
Non-Fatal Incapacitated	3
Non-Fatal Non-Incapacitated	23
Non-Fatal Possible Injury	40

**Total Injuries 67**



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**THE ATHOL BOARD of HEALTH is on  
THE FRONT LINE of PROTECTING  
the HEALTH & SAFETY of the  
COMMUNITY with a BROAD RANGE of**

### **RESPONSIBILITIES. What KEEPS the AGENTS BUSY?**

**The Board of Health is required to  
enforce health and safety codes:**

Our office conducted eighty five (85) inspections to ensure public food safety at restaurants, school cafeterias, food concession stands at local events, and church kitchens including five (5) inspections due to complaints received from the public. The Board issued permits to ninety (90) food service operations.

We received one hundred and sixteen (116) complaints of the State Sanitary Code; sixty (60) were handled by phone and fifty-six (56) required housing inspections. Ninety-two trash complaints were investigated. Our goal is to work with landlords, tenants, and homeowners to correct code violations and clean up trash without resorting to legal action. However, nine (9) court appearances by the agents were necessary to gain compliance. There were also twenty seven (27) pre-rental housing inspections. Both agents completed training and are certified Healthy Home Specialists.

In addition, the Board licensed two (2) tanning salons, four (4) public and semi-public swimming pools, and two (2) recreational camps. This resulted in two (2) tanning salon, seven (7) pool and nine (9) camp inspections.

**The Board of Health is required to help  
protect the environment:**

Title 5 is the Commonwealth's septic code to protect our water supplies. Our responsibility is the sitting, approval and inspection of septic systems. The health agent observed nineteen (19) perc tests, inspected forty eight (48) systems and reviewed



nineteen (19) Title V reports. The Board issued permits to sixteen (16) septic system installers, and ten (10) Septage haulers.

The BOH has private well regulations in order to ensure safe drinking water. The regulations require permits before drilling and water testing before use. The Board issued six (6) well permits during the year.

Residents have better access to recycling now with the West Royalston Transfer Station. Illegal dumping continues to be a problem especially along the rural roads of Athol. The Board issued twenty three (23) permits to refuse haulers.

Compost bins are sold at our office to help reduce the waste stream. Sixty two (62) bins were purchased this fiscal year. The BOH has sold four hundred fifty three (453) since we started selling them in 2003. This program helps reduce the waste stream by diverting organics into useable compost.

The BOH also participated in a successful hazardous waste collection day sponsored by Mass Toss (N.C.S.W.C.), held at the Athol DPW Barn.

### **The Board of Health plays a key role in disease prevention and health promotion:**

The office contracts the Athol Memorial Hospital to provide public health nursing services. The public health nurse conducted twenty two (22) investigations of communicable disease and forwarded these reports to the State Division of Communicable Disease Control.

Thirteen (13) blood pressure clinics were held for seniors, sponsored jointly by the Board of Health and the Council on Aging. Our office jointly with the Athol Memorial Hospital held nine (9) flu & pneumonia clinics for Athol and surrounding communities. One thousand three hundred & seventy two (1,372) flu and one hundred seven (107) pneumonia vaccinations were administered.



Eleven (11) animal bites were reported to the animal inspector for follow up on rabies prevention. The Board issued twenty (20) tobacco permits to local businesses; this is a method to help ensure compliance of not selling tobacco products to minors.

### **The Board of Health is mandated by the Federal government to participate in emergency preparedness:**

The health agent continues to be an active participant in the Region 2 Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coalition. Region 2 consists of seventy four (74) cities and towns in Worcester County and Orange. Through equipment grants this fiscal year, the BOH was able to purchase dispensing site equipment. The coalition also paid for staff and board members to attend the annual Massachusetts Association of Health Boards certification training. Trainings were also paid for the annual Massachusetts Health Officers Association and Massachusetts Environmental Health Association. The agents continue to work on emergency dispensing site planning.



Emergency planning is an on-going process that is here to stay. It requires extra effort to stay up to date in planning, resources, and training. Mutual aid agreements were signed with other Region 2 communities. This agreement will allow the town to access public health assets in emergencies. Many of these assets would be trained public health officers.

---

### **BUILDING & ZONING DEPARTMENT**

In fiscal year 2009 the Athol Building Department issued roughly the same amount of building permits as the last fiscal year. Unfortunately, the Assistant Inspector position was eliminated due to budget constraints.

The Building Department is operated on a budget that is generated from the fees brought in, and typically it pays for itself. In FY09 the building department collected \$55,353.00 in permit fees. The operating budget was \$101,114.00. The number of building permits that were approved totaled 442 with a total valuation of \$6,738,398.00.

Below is a break down of the permits issued in FY09:

Type of Permit	#
Single Family Homes	8
Multi-Family Apts./Condos	0
Commercial, including Municipal Additions	7
Garages/Carports	10
Decks/Porches	9
Pools	15
Wood Stoves	3
Sheds	102
Demo	8
All other, including roofs siding, and signs	17
Foundation Only	259
	4
CMR 780 Sec.106 Inspections	72
On Site Inspections	933

Plumbing Permits issued	106
Gas Permits issued	28
Total Fees Collected	\$8,428.00

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Cooke  
Inspector of Buildings

---

**WIRE INSPECTOR**  
**Annual Report**  
**July 1, 2008- June 30, 2009**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

Following is a report of the activities of the Wire Inspection Department for the fiscal year 2009:

MONTH	NUMBER OF PERMITS	FEES COLLECTED
July	36	\$2160.00
August	23	\$1465.00
September	31	\$3685.00
October	33	\$2595.00
November	33	\$2575.00
December	18	\$1295.00
January	9	\$825.00
February	18	\$1125.00
March	27	\$1615.00
April	25	\$1895.00
May	26	\$1475.00
June	22	\$1620.00
Totals	268	\$22,330.00

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary E. Terroy  
Wire Inspector

## ANIMAL INSPECTOR

July 27, 2009

Howard C. Adams, D.V.M.  
395 Pinedale Rd.  
Athol, Mass 01331

Honorable Board of Selectmen:

Athol, Mass.

I respectfully submit the following account of services rendered as Animal Inspector for the year July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009. I performed the annual census of livestock stabled in Athol as required by Mass. Dept. of Agricultural Resources. I found livestock on 43 premises and the count by species was: 107 cattle, 35 goats, 20 sheep, 40 swine, 9 llamas/alpacas, 56 equines, 138 poultry, 55 waterfowl, 9 rabbits, 8 peacock, 7 exotic birds, and 4 game birds.

Massachusetts requires the rabies vaccination of dogs and cats and recommends it for all equines. It is very important for pet owners to keep their pets current on rabies immunization. When a dog or cat is seen by a veterinarian with bites or an abscess of unknown origin it is reportable to the Board of Health or Town Animal Inspector. If the pet is current on rabies immunization it must be quarantined for 45 days and if not current euthanasia is recommended. If owner wishes to keep the pet it is quarantined for 6 months. This year I served 7- 45 day and 6- 6 month quarantines and released 2 quarantines from the previous year. This year I served the fewest Form 38- 10 day quarantines to owners of pets that reported to have been bitten persons. It was only 19. During the year, I sent 2 bats and two cat heads to the State Rabies Lab. One cat was unsatisfactory for testing and the other specimens were negative.

I wish to acknowledge the assistance and cooperation I received from the Athol Police Department and the Animal Control

Officer, the Board of Health, area veterinarians, and the Acton and Deerfield Emergency Veterinary Clinics.

Howard C. Adams, DVM

Animal Inspector

---

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES 2008 - 09

To the Board of Selectmen and Citizens of Athol: This is the Annual report of the Sealer of Weights and Measures.

The following inspections were made during the year:

CATEGORY	Sealed	Adjusted
Weights & Scales	215	9
Gas Pumps	129	0
Fuel Trucks	3	0
Bottle Return	6	0
TOTALS:	353	9

Commodities checked & found correct: 6  
Peddler's Licenses checked: 1

Fees collected amounted to \$2,815.00, and were turned over to the Treasurer, whose receipts I hold.

I attended a state - sponsored training session during the year. The annual office hour was held in June at the Sealer's office in the basement of the Memorial Building. At the suggestion of the Building Inspector and Health Inspector, a locked storage bin was obtained to store the Sealer's gas measuring containers outside of the building for safety reasons.

I would like to thank all businesses for their cooperation, and note that no major problems occurred during the year.

Respectfully submitted,



## Traffic Safety Committee

### Fiscal Year 2009 Annual Report

The objective of the Traffic Safety Committee is to review safety concerns in town that relate to traffic movement and patterns as well as parking concerns, and to make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen who ultimately promulgate the Parking and Traffic Rules for the Town of Athol.

The committee general meets on an “as needed” basis and meetings are posted in the Town Clerk’s office. The general public is encouraged to attend these meetings to provide as many diverse points of view as possible. All persons are invited and encouraged to send items to the committee for review. Anyone wishing to have the committee review an issue should send it to...

***Traffic Safety Committee  
Attn: Chief of Police  
280 Exchange Street  
Athol, MA 01331***

In fiscal 2009, the committee met on three occasions. The issues discussed and recommendations made at these meetings are listed below. (Note: not all of these recommendations were adopted by the Board of Selectmen).

#### 11/25/2008 –

Recommendation to put a **Green Florescent Cross Walk Sign** on Pleasant Street at the end of the School Entrance and for this Committee to write a letter to the

Superintendent recommending a second Crossing Guard on Pleasant Street, that a white line be painted on the road way coming into the school and the long term goal of widening the road way.

Recommendation to not put up any barriers on Pleasant Street at the intersection with Main Street at the Lights.

A letter was received concerning the hedge and a dumpster on the corner of Main and Chestnut Street. A motion was made that the committee sends a letter just voicing our safety concerns to the home owner asking them to move the dumpster and trim the hedges.

A resident requested speed bumps to slow traffic around Fish Park. A motion was made to put no speed bump on public roadways. All in favor.

A resident requested a Children at Play Sign in the area of No. Orange Road. A motion was made to recommend to the owners that if they wish to purchase the sign the DPW would install it as has been past practice due to budget restraints. Motion passed.

A motion to put a **“ONE-WAY” SIGN** at the entrance to the visiting nurses building and **“ONE-WAY”** at Common & Main Street. All in favor.

A motion to take the south Stop Sign off Park Street and put it on Allen Street. A motion to amend the motion to read a **3 Way-Stop** West on Allen Street at the corner of Riverbend and Allen and East on Allen and Park Street. All opposed to the first motion, all in favor of the second motion.

A motion that a crosswalk be painted in front of Riverbend School. Motion passed.

#### 12/23/2008 –

Safety concerns for there being no indication of an intersection when driving southbound toward Jeanne Drive on Woodlawn Road. There are no road marking, traffic signs or street lights. A motion to install a “Double Arrow Sign”. All in favor.

We received a request to remove the No Parking Signs headed East on Main Street near Chestnut Street due to visibility issues for vehicles exiting CVS A motion to remain No Parking for safety reasons. Motion passed.

**02/24/2009 –**

Concerns regarding the right turn on red at Main and Exchange Street when pedestrians are crossing in the crosswalk. A motion to leave the right hand turn as passed.

Request to bring back a couple of parking spaces on Main Street near Chestnut Street for area business. A motion that DPW speak with Mass Highway about the feasibility of bringing back a couple of parking spaces in front of business. All in favor.

Another discussion was held regarding the five point intersection at Crescent Street and Chestnut Hill Ave. and all the different stop and yield signs that have been placed in different locations over the past few years. A motion to table any further discussion until a feasibility study can be done due to the extent this location has been changed and the money spent and the cost that can and/or will be incurred to make more changes. A mirror and Stop sign were previously voted and it was agreed to go forward with those issues to see if they will take care of the problems or if further construction is needed. All in favor.

Sincerely



Timothy C. Anderson

**ATHOL  
COUNCIL ON AGING**  
584 MAIN STREET -

STE. 15

ATHOL,  
MASSACHUSETTS 01331  
TEL: (978) 249-8986 \* FAX:  
(978) 575-0277

*Cathy A. Savoy*

*Margaret L.*

*Young*  
Executive Director

Chairman

---

**July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009**

To: The Honorable Board of Selectpersons

**The Citizens of Athol**

**Mission Statement**

Councils on Aging are the principal agencies of local government that serve older adults. First authorized by special legislation in 1956, there are now over 347 Councils in the Commonwealth. The three core responsibilities of the Councils on Aging are but not limited to:

- To identify the needs of senior citizens along with the available resources within the community.
- To educate the community at large in the problems of aging and advocate for the needs of its senior citizens.
- To design, promote and put in place services that are needed and to coordinate the efforts of agencies which serve older people.

The Athol Council on Aging Office is a 37-hr. office, located in Suite 16 in the Town Hall. The office hours are: Mon. Wed. & Thurs. 8:00-5:00, Tues. 8:00-8:00 and closed Fridays. The Senior Center located at 416 Main Street and is open 9:00-3:30 Monday through Thursday with occasional night and weekend activities. Hours are flexible and can accommodate special programs.

Over the past year approximately 2,000 community seniors were served by the Council on Aging and Senior Center by the numerous programs provided through funding from the Town of Athol, the Executive Office of Elder Affairs Formula Grant, Frank S. Parmenter Trust Fund, Franklin County Home Care Corporation Title IIIB, Friends of the Athol Council on Aging and individual contributions.

The Athol Senior Center provided 3,900 congregate dinner meals served Monday through Thursday, 15,560 meals were home delivered and includes weekend and holiday meals. Total nutritionally balanced meals provided totaled 19,460.

Activities at the Senior Center include health related activities, congregate meals, bingo, pokeno, craft classes, movies, meetings, senior arts classes, social services, special events and evening computer classes.

Through a Title III D Grant administered through Franklin County Home Care and the Executive Office of Elder Affairs the Council was able to offer a "Wellness for Life" and "Fall Prevention Program.the Senior Arts (Therapy) Program facilitated by Pat Roix. Our innovative Birthday Card Outreach Program continues and is funded by donations from other programs. Approximately 446 seniors received Birthday cards along with the monthly Senior News Flyer and other pertinent community information.

Through Formula Grant funding, the Council was able to continue the well attended "Senior Fitness" program, instructed by certified staff of the Athol area YMCA two mornings a week. The fitness program served 20 seniors for 98 sessions. Summer fitness classes were held in July & Aug. at the request of the class.

A winter walking program continues through the cooperation of the Athol/Royalston School District. Over 20 walkers participated. The Athol High School is available from 3:00-5:00, Monday through Friday from November through April.

The Brown Bag distribution continues with approximately 124-135 elders receiving surplus food each month. 75 of the brown bags are delivered by volunteer drivers. The program is supervised by the COA staff. There are approximately 25 volunteers who unload the truck, package the brown bags, deliver to homebound seniors and disabled.

170 seniors received assistance in the preparation of their state and federal income taxes and Stimulus Rebate through AARP and the Council on Aging. Through outreach efforts the tax preparation program has shown a significant increase in demand over the past two years. Six seniors were assisted with "Circuit Breaker" Tax Rebates.

The Council has maintained their blood pressure clinics with 1,927 pressures taken at 48 clinics. There were 12 doctor's referrals. One Cholesterol/blood-sugar screenings was also offered serving 10 seniors. There were 2 cholesterol and 1 blood/sugar doctor's referrals. The council plans to have a minimum of 2 cholesterol/blood-sugar screenings in the coming year contingent upon funding. Working with Athol Memorial Hospital and the Board of Health, 1,015 flu vaccines were given at 9 clinics.

The “Shine” program, that assists area seniors with health insurance problems, has served 395 clients, and assisted with the Prescription Advantage program and the changes in the H.M.O. programs. A volunteer S.H.I.N.E. counselor trained through Franklin County Home Care Corporation and the Council on Aging provided assistance.

The Council has maintained the foot-screening clinic available to seniors twice a month. 290 screenings were performed during the 20 sessions. There were 7 doctor’s referrals.

Fuel assistance – Over 140 elders were served through referrals.

Senior Transportation – The council and matching funds from the Franklin Regional Transit Authority provided 2,000 one way, including out of town medical trips.

Monthly Craft Classes - Eight workshops were held at the Senior Center.

Through the generosity of the North Worcester County Board of Realtors and their “Adopt an Elder” Christmas program, the Council was able to deliver 45 Christmas gifts to isolated, less fortunate elders.

The Council on Aging provided assistance and referred 40 seniors to free legal assistance offered through North Central Legal assistance and the Franklin County Bar Association.

On Christmas Day, over 260 homebound elders and disabled were delivered a hot turkey dinner. With the help of the Athol High School staff, the COA Board and the **MANY** volunteers, the dinners were cooked, packed & delivered. The Christmas dinner program is a three day project.

The Council on Aging provided assistance with the Wm. J. O’Brien Thanksgiving community dinner where over 100

community residents were served a sit down meal on Thanksgiving Day.

The Council on Aging offered a performance by Richard Clark in “Love Letters” free of charge to seniors in the North Quabbin region. The performance was funded through the Athol Cultural Council grant and the Athol Council on Aging. It was attended by over 100 seniors and a light reception followed through the donations of various volunteers who provided food.

Throughout the year the Council on Aging Director contributed to various boards and committees that included, the Friends of the Athol Council on Aging board, Athol Housing Authority board chair, Community Transportation Services board, Citizens Advisory committee, Athol Memorial Needs Assessment steering committee, Greater Quabbin Health System Inc., corporate member and Traffic Safety committee member.

The Director and Board members participated in the Mass. Council on Aging, Western Mass. Council on Aging, Mass. Public Health Assoc., local school programs, (Inter-generational) and numerous other senior and municipal connected classes and seminars.

The Council on Aging applied for and received four grants to support various programming for the Fiscal Year 2009.

At the October 2007 Town Meeting the purchase of property owned by South Street Trust was overwhelmingly approved by the voters of Athol. The property includes a 15,000 square foot, one level masonry building of which 9,000 square feet will be renovated and provide the community seniors with a new center for programming.

John Catlin & Associates Architects, Inc. of Quincy, MA was awarded the architectural design contract for the new Senior Center



Site located at 82 Freedom Street in Athol in June 2008.

In June, a volunteer recognition luncheon was held for 150 volunteers at the American Legion in Athol. Senator Steve Brewer, Representative Chris Donelan, Representative Ann Gobi, Town Manager David Ames, Selectmen Alan Dodge, Father Stephen Johnson and Rebecca Bialecki from the North Quabbin Community Coalition were among those who honored the volunteers for their commitment in assisting the COA with the many programs it offers to elder and disabled community residents. Guest Speaker James Meehan, President of the Athol Memorial Hospital Board of Directors presented the hospitals renovation and expansion plans to the attendees.

In June the following slate of officers were elected for the coming year:

Margaret Young, Chairperson

Stephen Larry, Vice-Chairperson

Kathy Cygan, Secretary

Other board members are:

Anne Gatautis

Vicky Janik

Jean Ryder

Walter Lehman

Lillian Batchelder

The Board would like to thank the 164 volunteers that make the many Council on Aging programs possible. We are indebted to the Executive Office of Elder Affairs, the Massachusetts Councils on Aging, Franklin County Home Care Corporation, the Friends of the Athol Council on Aging, Athol, Frank S. Parmenter Trust Fund, Athol Memorial

Hospital, the local Cultural Council grantors, Senior Center meal site volunteers, AARP tax assistants, Western Mass Food Bank, Sterling Management, Our Lady Immaculate Church, Bonnie Benjamin's Sanders St. School 1<sup>st</sup> graders, the Athol Senior Transportation, the Athol Public Library, kitchen and administrative staff of Athol/Royalston Regional High School, the N. Worcester County Board of Realtors, Athol Lion's Club and many other clubs, organizations and individuals.

In conclusion, the Council on Aging wishes to thank the Town Manager, Board of Selectmen and the citizens of Athol for their support and assistance throughout the year. If any citizen has questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our Council office at (978) 249-8986.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Cathy A. Savoy*

*Judy Thayer*

*Executive Director*

*Program Assistant*

*Committee Chair*

---

## **Athol Public Library**

### **2008-2009 Annual Report**

#### **To: The Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Athol**

"Libraries raised me. I don't believe in colleges and universities. I believe in libraries because most students don't have any money. I couldn't go to college, so I went to the library three days a week for 10 years." Science fiction author Ray Bradbury.



A bad economy means that we are busier – people cancel their subscriptions to the Internet, magazines, book clubs and newspapers and use our services. Many people had ‘staycations’ this year and instead came to free library programs. And despite the increasing demand for our services, our budget was cut and we were told to hold the line on purchasing. The Finance Committee and town manager did not fund the Saturday hours. Another blow came when our capable assistant director Jude Anderson took another position in Washington state in November and we were not allowed to fill the position.

Yet it was not all doom and gloom. The children’s and young adult staff stepped up to the plate in a big way by taking on Project Bread. This federally funded program delivered free lunches each day in the summer to feed children under 18 regardless of income. Adults choosing to come only had to pay \$3.25. The library staff was serving about 30-35 meals per day which is amazing considering that there were three other meal sites in Athol, two within walking distance. We were particularly proud of our staff because not only did they serve lunch, but planned a program for each day after the meal from board games to movies to outdoor activities. The library staff rocks!

The library Director and Trustee Carol Ambrozy have been struggling forward with our plans for an expanded and renovated library building. With 100 million dollars becoming available in state grants in 2010, our goal is to get on the state list. The Trustees also committed to a green building so that with in mind we joined LEEDS and National Grid’s Advanced Building Program. We also met a number of times with the Athol Energy Committee to explore options. The Underutilized Building Committee took us on a tour of the old Silver Lake School to see if it would be appropriate for a new library. While the site is perfect, the location is bad. After intense discussion, the Trustees decide to decline this offer and move forward

with our current building on the recommendation of Mass. State Board of Library Commissioners Building Consultant Roe Waltos.



The library director attended several meetings to explore cooperation among agencies at the Regionalization Seminar, Town Hall charette, Master Plan committee, Energy Forum and the Job Fair. She also went to the Library Legislative Day in Boston where she was pleased to meet Senator Brewer in his new office. Trustee Ambrozy and Director Blanchard also spoke with Governor Deval at his ‘town meeting’ in Athol about the importance of funding libraries

In exciting grant news we applied for and received \$8,500 from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to purchase 8 energy efficient Dell Studio Hybrids. Our customers are enjoying these fast machines with great flat panel displays. We also were one of three libraries in Mass. that were awarded a \$7,500 “How Green is My Library” grant for the coming year. This should tie in nicely with our green building project.

### **Special Programs**

From Brianna Haskins and Deb Blanchard  
With being unable to fill the assistant director’s position, we could not have as many programs as we normally do. Computer classes were suspended indefinitely. We did still have some very

popular and well attended programs however. Some of them included a book talk and signing with Susan LaScala the author of "Small Wonder", Self defense with black belt holder Debi Nau, our annual Holiday Open House, Hiking the Appalachian trail with Roger 'Hammer' Therault, a showing of the movie "The Librarian" and a Wolf program for the Friends annual meeting. British mystery author Anne Cleeves visited us on her North American tour to promote her new book. The Mystery book group continues to meet monthly under the capable leadership of Karen McNiff and Deb Blanchard started a noontime book group called "Booked for Lunch" which reads popular fiction and nonfiction. A special thanks to the Friends for providing refreshments for the programs.

A Brownie troop led by Bonnie Price and library staffer Laura Caranfa held an overnight 'campout' at the library.

In October of 2008 paranormal investigators from Ghost Quest searched for paranormal activity at the Athol Public Library. They spooked a large crowd during the library program *Got Ghosts?* with video and audio footage from a variety of ghost hunts. The investigators conducted an exciting discussion about New England hauntings and offered their conclusion that the Athol Public Library is visited, but not haunted. The program sponsored by the Friends of the Athol Library was free and open to the public.

During March and April of 2009 Patricia Roix, a local yoga teacher and licensed wellness coach, offered gentle yoga through the program *Chair Yoga for Inflexible People*. The series of classes was sponsored by the Friends of the Athol Library. Classes were free for members of the Friends with a charge of \$5 per class for non-members to benefit the Friends of the Library.

In June of 2009 henna artist Nimmi Sehgal dazzled a large audience during the program

*Henna Body Art*. Sehgal offered a brief introduction to henna body art and applied henna artwork for registered participants. Sehgal, who has been creating henna body art for over 30 years, has been featured on television, including channels MTV, WB56, PBS and CNN News. The program was sponsored by the Friends of the Athol Library.

*For building maintenance and improvements, please see the Trustees report.*

## YOUNG ADULT'S REPORT

From Anne Cutler-Russo

During July and August of 2008, the summer reading program for students in grades 6 through 12 featured a sewing class taught by library volunteer Jean White using sewing machines borrowed from the middle school, art classes with library volunteer Susie Feldman in which students made large foil frames, a storytelling program with Alicia Quintano, three Anime Club meetings, two Teen Movie Nights, and a cooking program with Katie Wilton. In addition to these programs, the library participated in the Read to Feed program with Heifer International. Readers of all ages read enough books so that the Friends of the Library were able to contribute a hive of bees and a flock of ducks to the people of El Salvador.



During the 2008 – 2009 school year ATAC, the teen advisory group at the library, met monthly to discuss library programs and purchases. Members staffed a table at the Fall Festival in September, selling used books and baked goods. We celebrated Banned Books Week in October, discussing why books are challenged and talking about the freedom to choose and express one's opinion. In October we made giant scarecrows which were displayed at the library and judged on originality. The creators of the three most original scarecrows received prizes. The APL Super Duper Teen Space was redecorated with a *Twilight* theme and in December some members staffed a table at the Vendors Fair at the Town Hall selling gently used books and baked goods. Guest speakers at the December meeting were Claire Russo, an environmental educator, and a representative from the ACR Community Service Center who informed members about volunteer opportunities in the area. In the spring, we held a car wash in the library parking lot to raise money for the Friends of the Library and we conducted a Pennies for Peace campaign, raising money to fund education in remote areas of Pakistan and Afghanistan. We created an ATAC scrapbook for which each member made a page about him/herself. The final activity of the school year was Silver Lake cleanup. Members collected several bags of trash and enjoyed a picnic at the new pavilion.

The following activities continued throughout the school year: Wii Gaming meeting twice monthly with Jon Skinner, Yo-yo Club meeting weekly also with Jon Skinner, and the Knit-Wits meeting weekly with Jean White. In addition, twice monthly seasonal themed craft and cooking programs were held for tweens and teens. The Anime Club met monthly to view some great anime films and Teen Movie Nights were held monthly as well.

The Red Cross Babysitter's Training Course was held in March followed by CPR for Infants and Children for those students interested in acquiring more skills.

Library staff introduced a new program in April. At the Sweet Seconds Prom Dress Boutique, girls were able to browse through a great collection of donated gowns, try on dresses they found appealing, and, for a small donation to the Friends of the Library, walk out the door with the perfect dress for an exciting occasion. Library volunteer, Jean White, was available to make any necessary alterations and Marybeth Hayward made and donated earrings which were given to girls who found dresses. Kate Hickey of Silhouettes offered a gift certificate for a "Prom Up Do" as a raffle item.

Library staff were out and about this past year as well. Community Reading Day was held in October. Volunteers were recruited to read in all elementary classrooms in the school district and in all the English classes at the middle school. Library staff provided a training session for readers and funding for the purchase of books was obtained from the Rotary Club and the Friends of the Library. Each teacher received a copy of the featured book for the classroom.

The On the Same Page program of 2009 featured *Three Cups of Tea*, a book about one man's efforts to promote education and build schools in the remote regions of Pakistan and Afghanistan. We held a book discussion led

by David Boeri of Petersham, a noontime book discussion, and a mountain climbing program with Karen Greczik and Polly Bixby of Orange.

Library staff visited the middle school in the fall for the Summer Readers Breakfast and twice in the spring for book talks and for the Summer Opportunities Fair.

We would like to thank the Friends of the Library for their constant support of teen programs, Community Reading Day, and On the Same Page programs.

## **CHILDREN'S ROOM REPORT**

From Jean Shaughnessy

The "Wild Reads" Summer Reading program began in June 2008 and ended eight weeks later in August. Wednesday morning Story Times all had wild animal themes. Several special programs were held as part of the summer program, also, including making a polar fleece pillow lion, painting safari hats, animal picture frames, and jungle beads and jewelry. Three programs that would count as one school reading list project were held, featuring books by authors Patricia Polacco and Roald Dahl. Paul McNiff presented a great "Wild Science" program, sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Summer Reading Club statistics –

162 children registered in the Sign Up Book  
113 log sheets, 118 streamers

176 prizes were awarded for 2,990 books read

Families Reading Together – 36 families/138 entries or hours

The Friends sponsored a bee hive and flock of ducks for El Salvador through Heifer Project for reading done over the summer – 411 feathers were added to our duck, equaling 2,055 picture books or 41,100 pages

read or six weeks of 10 hours reading per day.

The regular Wednesday and Friday morning Story Times and story times for the YMCA and Headstart nursery schools all began at the end of September. In October, we represented the library at the Historical Society Children's Day with a "Politicopoly" game designed by Jon Skinner and make-your-own campaign buttons plus a display of books on elections and voting. The Halloween Stroll brought about 300 children into the library for candy and bookmarks. Activities in November included library instruction and a tour for a Cub Scout troop and a Friday evening family film. We provided a craft and library information at the annual Literacy Event at the Elks Club on one Saturday in November.

Community Reading was held in the Athol-Royalston school system, providing a reader and book for every classroom in Athol and Royalston, kindergarten to grade 8. The Athol-Orange Rotary helped sponsor the books for this program again this year. Anne, Karen, and Jean worked with the teen group to have a table of new and used books at the December Vendors Fair at the Town Hall. An extra week of Christmas vacation was the result of a major ice storm in December. The YMCA Kids Depot used the library extensively, especially during this unexpected extra week off from school.

In January 2009, Story Times resumed after the holidays with a celebration of Chinese New Year. Other Story Time themes were penguins, snowmen, and Ground Hog Day. An after school Chinese New Year program was also offered at the suggestion of former library employee, Nita Bates. Activities during February Vacation Week included candy bingo, a book sharing tea party, and a movie. We also began our "Prom Dress Swap", gathering donated prom dresses for redistribution. Some themes for the March

Story Times included St. Patrick's Day crafts, breads of the world, and cats.

April Vacation Week featured two film programs, "Bolt" and "Tales of Despereaux". Michael LeBlanc of Gardner brought his live wolf and "Wolf Talk" program for the Friends Annual Meeting, entertaining about 125 children and adults. May activities included a teen car wash supervised by Anne, Karen, and Jean, a Cub Scout Troop instruction and tour, a meeting with Marilyn Dahlquist, reading coordinator in the Athol School System, to plan our summer reading book lists and project requirements, and a table at the Family Fun Day with book bags to decorate. Story Times ended at the end of May. Brandy Lefsyk presented a Yoga Story Time for young children in June. Mary Grutchfield's special needs class at Riverbend School walked to the library for stories, a tour, and to pick out books. Jean visited all the elementary school classes to promote the summer reading program. Anne, Karen, and Jean met with Project Bread representatives to work out plans for the library's participation in the free lunch program. Two movies and two Zen Doodling programs were offered during the first week of summer vacation. The "Starship Adventure" Summer Reading program began on June 29.

### **MEMORIAL DONATIONS**

*Materials were purchased in memory of: Debbie Bisbee, Martha Constance Blowen, Lynda Brousseau, Jean Cox, Norman "Bud" Cummings, Clara and Ralph Dooley, Archie Gilliatte, Walter and Urania Gray, Allen E. Hastings, Severina Kaczmarczyk, Francis "Frank" Koczan, Minnie Plotkin, Phyllis White. A donation was also given in memory of the bear that was killed in Athol. A book was donated in honor of: Ralph and Gloria Dawson.*

### **YOUR LIBRARY STAFF**

### **ADULT DEPARTMENT**

Debra A. Blanchard, *Director*  
Jude Anderson, *Assistant Director (vacant as of November 08)*  
Marie Lehmann, Anne Cutler-Russo, Brianna Haskins, *Senior Library Technicians*  
Patricia Shatos, Andrew Skinner, *Part Time Library Technicians*  
Ryan Johnson, *Computer aide*  
Andrew Skinner, *Part Time Custodian*  
Kelsey Matthews, *Page*. Sarah Stanley and Laura Caranfa, *Brouillet Interns*

### **CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT**

Jean Shaughnessy, *Children's Librarian*  
Karen McNiff, *Children's Assistant*  
Samantha Skinner, *Page*. Megan Shaughnessy and Jonathan Skinner, *Brouillet interns*

### **FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

A special thanks to our faithful treasurer

Lillian Bachelder and secretary Jean White

both of who do such a splendid job.

### **FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD**

Treasurer: Lil Bachelder  
Secretary: Jean White  
Trustee Rep: Margaret Young  
Directors: Edna and Joe Baublis, Rita Grimes, Roberta Landry, Julianne Matthews, Patricia Ray, Barbara Robichaud and Jean White.

*Join the Friends Today!*

### **MASS BLAST GRADUATES**

Unfortunately because of the loss of our assistant's full time position, we were not able to conduct Mass Blast classes this year.

## SENIOR TAX ABATEMENT VOLUNTEERS

Brenda Buck, Michael Cygan, Jeanne Forand, Sally Sennott, Patricia Shatos, Martin Tessier, Jean White.

### Lastly from the Director's Desk

I would like to thank the dedicated and caring staff of the Athol Public Library. This year, more than ever, they have had to work especially hard with a reduced budget and increased public demands. They continue to do this with a smile and friendly attitude. On behalf of the Trustees, myself and the community I would like to commend them for a job well done.

Thank you to the citizens of the Athol area for your continued support of the Athol Public Library

*Respectfully submitted,  
Debra A. Blanchard, Library Director*

*"No other civilization, ever, has had anything comparable to our U.S. public library system" Pulitzer Prize winning historian David McCullough*

## LIBRARY CIRCULATION STATISTICS FY09

### ADULT

Books 44,537

*Periodicals, newspapers* 1,252

*CDs, cassettes, LP* 3,778

*Videos, DVDs* 25,076

Electronic formats 13,866

Miscellaneous 1,255

TOTAL 89,764

### CHILDREN

Books 36,471

*Periodicals, newspapers* 151

*CDs, cassettes, LP* 597

*Videos, DVDs* 5,015

Electronic formats 804

Miscellaneous 546

TOTAL 43,584

## EQUIPMENT USE AND ADDITIONAL SERVICES

Equipment (projectors, cameras  
Type writers, screens, etc.) 192  
Computers (In-house Use) 14,670  
Archives Room Use 87

Museum Passes 147

Reference 1,422

Program attendance 7,971

Children: 5,489

Young Adult: 1,697

Adult: 785

School loans 11,294

Rest Home Deposits 401

Total Equipment, etc. 36,184

**Total Library Circulation** **169,532**

Materials Purchased 3,528

## Materials Lent to Out-of-Town Residents

**Total Non-Resident Borrowing** **17,304**

Interlibrary Loans to Other Libraries 3,521

Interlibrary Loans from Other Libraries  
4,840

Library website hits 41,748

## Project Bread

Lunches served 667

Program attendance 684

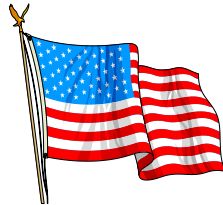
## **ANNUAL REPORT FY2009**

### **OFFICE OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

During the past year this office has continued to administer the Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), and to provide planning activities for the town. The office is set up to administer the CDBG grants; the Office Manager, the Grant Administrator, and the Rehab Specialist are each fully funded by the CDBG funds while the Director of Planning & Development/Town Planner is funded at 50% by CDBG funds. The Town Planner also provides administrative support to the EDIC, serves on the Tax Increment Finance Committee, and supports economic development for the Town whenever possible.

In FY09 the office administered CDBG funds that were awarded in FY07, FY08 and FY09, in the amount of approximately \$1,200,000 and completed projects that included the Liberty Street reconstruction, and over 20 Housing Rehabilitation projects in the towns of Athol, Petersham, Phillipston and Royalston. This office also funds Social Service projects each year that have focused on

activities that provide either education or literacy services as they relate to economic self-sufficiency; in 2009 the Town funded a Job-related Child Care project. This office works with the EDIC to provide administrative support for the planning activities associated with the development of the North Quabbin Business Park, and with the Board of Planning & Development.



### **NORTHEAST QUABBIN DISTRICT**

*Department of Veterans' Services*

*584 Main Street, Athol, Massachusetts  
01331*

Phone: 978/249-6935 Fax: 978/575-  
0269

Email: [vetagnt@townofathol.org](mailto:vetagnt@townofathol.org)

*"Putting Veterans First"*

*Serving the Towns of Athol, Petersham,  
Phillipston, Royalston and Templeton*

---

### **FY09 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Commonwealth, under Massachusetts General Laws (M.G.L.) Chapter 115, provides a uniform program of veterans' benefits and services to a qualifying veteran or dependent of a veteran residing in the commonwealth.

The Northeast Quabbin District (NQD), Department of Veterans' Services, in compliance with M.G.L. Chapter 115,



serves qualifying veterans or their dependents residing in Athol. An applicant may be eligible for benefits in accordance with a formula that takes into account household income, number of dependents, and other deciding factors.

Through the NQD Director of Veterans' Services, veterans or dependents have received M.G.L. Chapter 115 Benefits, assistance, counseling, annuities, veterans bonuses, burial information, employment, grave flags, property & excise tax exemptions, record retention, information & referrals to other assistance programs, transitional housing, soldiers homes, and other veterans' services.

The Director has assisted veterans or their dependents with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) application process for service-connected disability compensation, non-service connected disability pensions, health benefits, certificates of eligibility, burial benefits, grave markers, and requests for increases in existing service-connected disability compensation.

The Director has acquired discharge documents, corrected discharge documents, personnel records, medical records, medals, decorations, and awards due the veteran for their military service from the United States Department of Defense.



The FY09 expenditure for Chapter 115 Veterans' Benefits to authorized recipients was \$160,487.91. The Town of Athol will receive reimbursement for 75% of the expenditure from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The District will refund \$4,157.32 to Athol in unspent FY09 administrative dollars because the purchase of new office equipment did not materialize as compatibility and technology requirements were not announced for the new statewide web-based Veterans' Services Management Information System due to the delay in its implementation to FY10.

The support the Commonwealth gives to this deserving segment of our population is unlike any other in the nation and the envy of other states. All Massachusetts citizens should be proud of the programs and benefits offered by the Massachusetts Department of Veterans Services because it gives back to the men and women who sacrificed to serve our country.

I look forward to serving the veterans and/or their dependents who reside in Athol. I can be contacted at (978) 249-6935.

Respectfully submitted,

*Neil P. McGuirk*



Neil P. McGuirk

Director of Veterans' Services

---

## **Report of the Department of Public Works**

The Town of Athol Department of Public Works is a consolidated department of 26 full time employees and three part time employees who are responsible for streets, sidewalks, drainage, water and sewer along a roadway network of over 103 miles. We are also responsible for mowing and maintaining 9 cemeteries, 60 acres of parks and ball fields, pruning and removal of town trees. The DPW operates and maintains 4 wells and three water storage tanks. There are also 26 buildings under the DPW's direct responsibility ranging from small sheds to multi-million dollar facilities including a wastewater treatment plant, six wastewater pump stations; two water treatment facilities, and a maintenance depot. We also operate the new Transfer Station. We now provide a location for disposal of solid waste, and more importantly, provides the opportunity to recycle. The DPW also became responsible for the new Veteran's Park and the Alan Rich Environmental Park.

Our current staff represents a significant cut in manpower. In 2003 there were 31 on staff and in the 1980's there were 42. In spite of the cuts in manpower, the need for service has not decreased. Many dedicated volunteers and Senior Tax Abatement participants have helped with the increased maintenance needs. We sincerely appreciate their efforts.

Our normal maintenance activities include; snow & Ice control, sweeping and sand removal, pothole patching, cleaning and rebuilding collapsed manholes and catch basins, clearing sewer blockages, reading and repairing water meters, fixing water and sewer pipes, rebuilding pumps and motors, installing signs, mowing grass and roadside brush; managing and maintain a solid waste handling facility and maintaining a fleet of vehicles; as well as maintenance of several buildings. There are also many administrative duties including customer relations, water and sewer billing, cemetery records, grant coordination, project preparation, review and inspection; contract preparation and bidding; and many other miscellaneous tasks.



The following are just some of the many projects that have been in progress or completed in fiscal 2009:

Replaced 20 fire hydrants

Completion of the \$8.4 million upgrade to the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Completion of the Main St. Reconstruction & Safety Improvements Project which includes a traffic control signal at the intersection of Main & Pleasant Streets and upgrading the old water main from Exchange Street to the Millers River with a new 12 " main for better fire flows.

Lined 2094 feet of sewer main and rehabilitated sewer manholes to remove inflow & infiltration

Completed the Central St. Reconstruction Project.

Completed the Liberty Street Reconstruction Project.

Started the Park St. Reconstruction Project.

Continued work in the new Lake Park playground including the installation of the memory brick walkway.

Resurfaced the following streets:

Swansey St.  
Lombard Ave.  
Radcliffe St.  
Wood St.  
Birch St.  
Harrington St.  
Paige St.  
Franklin St.  
Carpenter Rd. (partial)  
So. Athol Rd. (partial)

Respectfully,

THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC

WORKS

## **Contributory Retirement System**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen;

In FY09 the Athol Contributory Retirement System had 145 retirees and 204 active members of the Athol Retirement System. The system has been turned over to PRIT

and the balance as of May 09  
\$13,315,348.74

In June, we held an election for an open position. Andy Belloli won by ballot election.

The board consists of five members who meet once a month to approve warrants and various other issues the retirement system has.

The retirement board had 6 new members in 2009, 17 withdrawals from the system including transfers and 3 retirees passed away.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne M. Barilone  
Retirement Administrator

---

## **ELECTIONS**

### **STATE PRIMARY SEPTEMBER 16, 2008**

In each precinct polling place, the polls were opened at 7:00 a.m. and the ballot box in each precinct registered 0000.

Ballots received in each of the polling places were as follows:

**Precinct 1:**    Regular Ballots - 400  
Democrat; 300Republican ;  
50 Green-Rainbow ; 27  
Working Families  
Absent Voter Ballots: 8  
Democrat, 4 Republican; 0  
Green-Rainbow; 0 Working  
Families

**Precinct 2:** Regular Ballots: 400  
Democrat; 300 Republican;  
46 Green-Rainbow; 23  
Working Families  
Absent Voter Ballots: 7  
Democrat; 0 Republican; 0  
Green-Rainbow; 0 Working  
Families

**Precinct 3:** Regular Ballots: 400  
Democrat; 300 Republican;  
50 Green-Rainbow; 25  
Working Families.  
Absent Voter Ballots: 9  
Democrat; 0 Republican; 0  
Green-Rainbow; 0 Working  
Families

The polls in each precinct were closed at 8:00 p.m. and after all the ballots, including absent voter ballots, were cast, the ballot boxes registered as follows:

Precinct 1: 139 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket.

Precinct 2: 127 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket

Precinct 3: 141 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket

The number of names checked on the voting list was as follows:

**Precinct 1:** On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 120 Democrat; 19 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; and 0 Working Families

On the voting list at the ballot box: 120 Democrat; 19 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; and 0 Working Families

**Precinct 2:** On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 113 Democrat; 14 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; and 0 Working Families

On the voting list at the ballot box: 113 Democrat; 14 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; and 0 Working Families

**Precinct 3:** On the ballot clerk's list and on the list at the ballot box : 120 Democrat; 20 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow and 1 Working Families

On the voting list at the ballot box: 120 Democrat; 20 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; and 1 Working Families

#### NUMBER OF BALLOTS CAST

**Precinct 1:** Number of Ballots Cast: 120  
Democrat ; 19 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; 0 Working Families

Spoiled Ballots: 2 Democrat; 0 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; 0 Working Families

Provisional Ballots: 1 Democrat; 0 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; 0 Working Families

Unused Ballots: 285 Democrat; 235 Republican; 50 Green-Rainbow; 27 Working Families

**Precinct 2:** Number of Ballots Cast: 113  
Democrat ; 14 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; 0 Working Families

Spoiled Ballots: 1 Democrat; 0 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; 0 Working Families

Provisional Ballots: 0 Democrat; 0 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; 1 Working Families

Unused Ballots: 293 Democrat; 286 Republican; 46 Green-Rainbow; 22 Working Families

**Precinct 3:** Number of Ballots Cast: 120  
Democrat ; 20 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; 1 Working Families

Spoiled Ballots: 0 Democrat; 0 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; 0 Working Families

Provisional Ballots: 0 Democrat; 0 Republican; 0 Green-Rainbow; 0 Working Families

Unused Ballots: 289 Democrat; 280 Republican; 50 Green-Rainbow; 24 Working Families

## ELECTION OFFICERS

**Precinct 1:** Warden (D) Beverly Tarolli;  
Clerk (R) Alice Woessner; Inspectors: (U)  
Joyce Sinclair; (U) Nancy Daub; (U)  
Marilyn Farnum; (U) Lillian Bachelder

**Precinct 2:** Warden (R) Susannah Whipps;  
Clerk (U) Ann Shea; Inspectors: (D)  
Roberta Landry; (U) Dorothy Smith; (U)  
Catherine Foster; (D) Patricia Haley

**Precinct 3:** Warden (D) Gerard Lozier;  
Clerk (R) Marion Euvrard; Inspectors: (U)  
Allen Hodgdon; (R) Diane Frost; (U) Janet  
Haley; (U) Madeleine Andrews; (D)  
William Caldwell

In each precinct, all of the election officers  
were sworn in by the warden.

The votes were canvassed, counted,  
recorded and declared by law  
as required, and were  
as follows:

DEMOCRAT	1	2	3	TOTALS
<b>TOTAL DEMOCRATS</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>354</b>
<b>SENATOR IN CONGRESS</b>				
BLANKS	0	1	0	1
JOHN F. KERRY	85	87	88	260
EDWARD J. O'REILLY	36	24	32	92
ALL OTHERS	0	1	0	1
TOTALS	121	113	120	354
<b>REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS</b>				
BLANKS	2	1	1	4
JOHN W. OLVER	96	95	104	295
ROBERT A. FEUER	23	17	15	55
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	121	113	120	354
<b>COUNCILLOR</b>				
BLANKS	33	17	14	64
THOMAS J. FOLEY	88	96	106	290
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	121	113	120	354
<b>SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT</b>				
BLANKS	14	4	5	23
STEPHEN M. BREWER	106	109	114	329
ALL OTHERS	1	0	1	2
TOTALS	121	113	120	354
<b>REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT</b>				
BLANKS	21	9	13	43
CHRISTOPHER J. DONELAN	99	103	106	308
ALL OTHERS	1	1	1	3
TOTALS	121	113	120	354
<b>REGISTER OF PROBATE</b>				
BLANKS	31	18	17	66
STEPHEN G. ABRAHAM	90	95	103	288
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	121	113	120	354

<b>REPUBLICAN</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>
<b>TOTAL REPUBLICAN</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>SENATOR IN CONGRESS</b>				
BLANKS	0	1	1	2
JEFFREY K. BEATTY	19	13	19	51
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	19	14	20	53
<b>REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS</b>				
BLANKS	1	2	1	4
NATHAN A. BECH	18	12	19	49
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	19	14	20	53
<b>COUNCILLOR</b>				
BLANKS	16	11	15	42
ALL OTHERS	3	3	5	11
TOTALS	19	14	20	53
<b>SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT</b>				
BLANKS	11	10	16	37
ALL OTHERS	8	4	4	16
TOTALS	19	14	20	53
<b>REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT</b>				
BLANKS	0	0	5	5
ROBERT E. PARKS	19	13	15	47
ALL OTHERS	0	1	0	1
TOTALS	19	14	20	53
<b>REGISTER OF PROBATE</b>				
BLANKS	15	10	16	41
ALL OTHERS	4	4	4	12
TOTALS	19	14	20	53
<b>GREEN-RAINBOW</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>
<b>TOTAL GREEN RAINBOW</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>SENATOR IN CONGRESS</b>				
BLANKS	0	0	0	0
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	0	0	0	0
<b>REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS</b>				
BLANKS	0	0	0	0
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	0	0	0	0
<b>COUNCILLOR</b>				
BLANKS	0	0	0	0
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	0	0	0	0
<b>SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT</b>				
BLANKS	0	0	0	0

ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	0	0	0	0
<b>REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT</b>				
BLANKS	0	0	0	0
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	0	0	0	0
<b>REGISTER OF PROBATE</b>				
BLANKS	0	0	0	0
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	0	0	0	0
<b>WORKING FAMILIES</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>
<b>TOTAL WORKING FAMILIES</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>SENATOR IN CONGRESS</b>				
BLANKS	0	0	0	0
ALL OTHERS	0	0	1	1
TOTALS	0	0	1	1
<b>REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS</b>				
BLANKS	0	0	0	0
ALL OTHERS	0	0	1	1
TOTALS	0	0	1	1
<b>COUNCILLOR</b>				
BLANKS	0	0	0	0
ALL OTHERS	0	0	1	1
TOTALS	0	0	1	1
<b>SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT</b>				
BLANKS	0	0	0	0
ALL OTHERS	0	0	1	1
TOTALS	0	0	1	1
<b>REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT</b>				
BLANKS	0	0	0	0
ALL OTHERS	0	0	1	1
TOTALS	0	0	1	1
<b>REGISTER OF PROBATE</b>				
BLANKS	0	0	0	0
ALL OTHERS	0	0	1	1
TOTALS	0	0	1	1

We have canvassed the returns of votes cast in Precincts 1, 2, and 3, Town of Athol, and the State Primary this date, and declare the foregoing to be so.

In accordance with the requirements of General Laws, chapter 51, section 61, as amended, we certify that the number of registered voters in each voting precinct in the Town of Athol at the close of

registration on August 27, 2008 was as follows.

Precinct	
Registered Voters	
1	2449
2	2195
3	<u>2124</u>

Total  
6768

Precinct 1: 1761  
1539

Precinct 2:  
Precinct 3: 1466

#### NUMBER OF BALLOTS CAST

#### **PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 4, 2008**

In each precinct polling place, the polls were opened at 7:00 a.m. and the ballot box in each precinct registered 0000.

Ballots received in each of the polling places were as follows:

Precinct 1: 2400 Regular Ballots; 201 Partial Ballots and 85 Absent Voter Ballots  
Precinct 2: 2298 Regular Ballots; 151 Partial Ballots and 70 Absent Voter Ballots  
Precinct 3: 2284 Regular Ballots; 151 Partial Ballots and 99 Absent Voter Ballots

The polls in each precinct were closed at 8:00 p.m. and after all the ballots, including absent voter ballots, were cast, the ballot boxes registered as follows:

Precinct 1: 1759 on the ballot box and 2 in the side pocket.  
Precinct 2: 1537 on the ballot box and 2 in the side pocket  
Precinct 3: 1464 on the ballot box and 2 in the side pocket

The number of names checked on the voting list was as follows:

Precinct 1: 1761                      Precinct 2:  
1539                      Precinct 3: 1466

The number of names checked on the voting list at the ballot box was as follows:

Precinct 1: 1759 Ballots Cast; 19 Spoiled Ballots; 5 Provisional Ballots; 3 Partial Ballots; 703 Unused Ballots; and 197 Unused Partial Ballots  
Precinct 2: 1537 Ballots Cast; 11 Spoiled Ballots; 13 Provisional Ballots; 1 Partial Ballot; 808 Unused Ballots; and 149 Unused Partial Ballots  
Precinct 3: 1466 Ballots Cast; 28 Spoiled Ballots; 10 Provisional Ballots; 2 Partial Ballots; 476 Unused Ballots; and 149 Unused Partial Ballots

#### ELECTION OFFICIALS

**Precinct 1:** Warden (D) Beverly Tarolli; Deputy Warden, (R) Alice Woessner; Clerk (U) Joyce Sinclair Inspectors: (U) Nancy Daub; (D) Patricia Kaczmarczyk; (U) Allen Hodgdon; (U) John Wallace; (U) Lillian Bachelder; (U) Marilyn Farnum; (U) Linda Skevington; (U) Bonnie Hodgdon; (U) Denise Rix

**Precinct 2:** Warden (R) Susannah Whipps; Deputy Warden (U) Ann Shea; Clerk (U) Debra Ellis; Inspectors: (U) Jean White; (R) Patricia Simkiwicz; (U) Betty Ann Smith; (D) Shirley Kaczmarczyk; (R) Ruth Caldwell; (U) Catherine Foster; (U) Shirley Hyre; (U) Patricia Haley; (D) William Caldwell; (U) Marsha Smith; (U) Christine Miranda; (U) Linda Donaldson

**Precinct 3:** Warden (D) Gerard Lozier; Deputy Warden (R) Marion Euvrard; Clerk (R) Madeleine Andrews; Inspectors: (R)

Diane Frost; (U) Clinton Smith; (D) Linda Lozier; (R) Richard Simkewicz; (U) Gloria Stoddard; (U) Joan Starrett; (U) Janet Haley; (D) Muriel Holden; (U) Glenn Frenette; (D) Diane Page; (D) Dominic Miranda; (Z) Jackie Chapalonis

In each precinct, all of the election officers were sworn in by the warden.

The votes were canvassed, counted, recorded and declared by law as required, and were as follows:

<b>OFFICE/CANDIDATE</b>				
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>
<b>PRESIDENT/VICE PRESIDENT</b>				
BLANKS	8	8	4	20
BALDWIN/CASTLE	3	6	2	11
BARR/ROOT	11	6	3	20
MCCAIN/PALIN	721	676	559	1956
MCKINNEY/CLEMENTE	5	3	7	15
NADAR/GONZALEZ	27	20	24	71
OBAMA/BIDEN	977	808	862	2647
HILLARY CLINTON	1	5	4	10
RON PAUL	4	4	2	10
AL GORE	0	1	0	1
MIKE HUCKABEE	0	1	0	1
ALL OTHERS	4	3	2	9
TOTALS	1761	1541	1469	4771
<b>SENATOR IN CONGRESS</b>				
BLANKS	35	26	29	90
JOHN F KERRY	1024	894	874	2792
JEFFREY K BEATTY	623	537	487	1647
ROBERT J UNDERWOOD	78	83	78	239
ALL OTHERS	1	1	1	3
TOTALS	1761	1541	1469	4771
<b>REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS</b>				
BLANKS	59	50	54	163
JOHN W OLVER	1202	1037	1042	3281
NATHAN A BECH	498	452	371	1321
ALL OTHERS	2	2	2	6
TOTALS	1761	1541	1469	4771
<b>COUNCILLOR</b>				
BLANKS	408	357	295	1060
THOMAS J FOLEY	1339	1173	1165	3677
ALL OTHERS	14	11	9	34
TOTALS	1761	1541	1469	4771
<b>SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT</b>				
BLANKS	224	201	170	595
STEPHEN M BREWER	1520	1330	1289	4139



ROBERT PARKS	0	1	0	1
ALL OTHERS	17	9	10	36
TOTAL	1761	1541	1469	4771
<b>REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT</b>				
BLANKS	116	89	113	318
CHRISTOPHER J DONELAN	1180	984	1006	3170
ROBERT E PARKS	464	465	348	1277
ALL OTHERS	1	3	2	6
TOTALS	1761	1541	1469	4771
<b>REGISTER OF PROBATE</b>				
BLANKS	457	390	334	1181
STEPHEN G ABRAHAM	1294	1140	1121	3555
ALL OTHERS	10	11	14	35
TOTALS	1761	1541	1469	4771
<b>QUESTION 1 - STATE INCOME TAX</b>				
BLANKS	34	34	45	113
YES	427	465	382	1274
NO	1300	1042	1042	3384
TOTALS	1761	1541	1469	4771
<b>QUESTION 2 - MARIJUANA</b>				
BLANKS	22	24	24	70
YES	1174	1068	969	3211
NO	565	449	476	1490
TOTALS	1761	1541	1469	4771
<b>QUESTION 3 - DOG RACING</b>				
BLANKS	28	28	29	85
YES	967	859	805	2631
NO	766	654	635	2055
TOTALS	1761	1541	1469	4771
<b>QUESTION 4 - NON BINDING FOR STATE REP TO SUPPORT LEGISLATION ON HEALTH CARE</b>				
BLANKS	214	148	150	512
YES	1073	983	954	3010
NO	474	410	365	1249
TOTALS	1761	1541	1469	4771

We have canvassed the returns of votes cast in Precincts 1, 2, and 3, Town of Athol, and the State Primary this date, and declare the foregoing to be so.

In accordance with the requirements of General Laws, chapter 51, section 61, as amended, we certify that the number of registered voters in each voting precinct in the Town of Athol at the close of registration on August 27, 2008 was as follows.

Precinct	
Registered Voters	
1	2518
2	2252
3	2180
Total:	6950

**ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION  
APRIL 6, 2009**

In each precinct polling place, the polls were opened at 10:00 a.m. and the ballot box in each precinct registered 0000.

Ballots received in each of the polling places were as follows:

Precinct 1: 605 Regular Ballots and 2 Absent Voter Ballots  
Precinct 2: 604 Regular Ballots and 2 Absent Voter Ballots  
Precinct 3: 604 Regular Ballots and 6 Absent Voter Ballots

The polls in each precinct were closed at 8:00 p.m. and after all the ballots, including absent voter ballots, were cast, the ballot boxes registered as follows:

Precinct 1: 231 on the ballot box and 1 in the side pocket.  
Precinct 2: 167 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket  
Precinct 3: 169 on the ballot box and 0 in the side pocket

The number of names checked on the voting list was as follows:

**Active Voting List:** Precinct 1, 227;  
Precinct 2, 157; Precinct 3, 159  
**Inactive Voting List:** Precinct 1, 5;  
Precinct 2, 9; Precinct 3, 10

The number of names checked on the voting list at the ballot box was as follows:

**Active Voting List:** Precinct 1, 227;  
Precinct 2, 157; Precinct 3, 159  
**Inactive Voting List:** Precinct 1, 5;  
Precinct 2, 9; Precinct 3, 10

**NUMBER OF BALLOTS CAST**

Precinct 1: 232 Ballots Cast; 5 Spoiled Ballots; 0 Provisional Ballots; and 370 Unused Ballots  
Precinct 2: 166 Ballots Cast; 2 Spoiled Ballots; 0 Provisional Ballots; and 438 Unused Ballots  
Precinct 3: 169 Ballots Cast; 4 Spoiled Ballots; 0 Provisional Ballots; and 437 Unused Ballots

**ELECTION OFFICIALS**

**Precinct 1:** Warden (D) Beverly Tarolli; Clerk (R) Alice Woessner; Inspectors: (U) Allen Hodgdon; (U) Nancy Daub; (U) Marilyn Farnum; (U) Joyce Sinclair; (U) Bonnie Hodgdon; (U) Lillian Bachelder; (U) Rachel Robideau

**Precinct 2:** Warden (R) Susannah Whipps; Clerk (U) Ann Shea; Inspectors: (U) Betty Ann Smith; (U) Dorothy Smith; (U) Jean White; (U) Patricia Tedford; (R) Janice Gross; (U) Catherine Foster; (U) Patricia Haley; (U) Marsha Smith; (U) Christine Miranda

**Precinct 3:** Warden (D) Gerard Lozier; Clerk (U) Madeleine Andrews; Inspectors: (R) Diane Frost; (U) Clinton Smith; (D) Linda Lozier; (U) Gloria Stoddard; (U) Joan Starrett; (D) Muriel Holden; (D) Dominic Miranda

In each precinct, all of the election officers were sworn in by the warden.

The votes were canvassed, counted, recorded and declared by law as required, and were as follows:

OFFICE/CANDIDATE	1	2	3	TOTALS		
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>568</b>		
<b>MODERATOR</b>						
BLANKS	33	21	23	77		
LAWRENCE P. MCLAUGHLIN	198	146	145	489		
ALL OTHERS	1	0	1	2		
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>568</b>		
<b>SELECTMAN - 3 YEARS</b>						
BLANKS	51	26	33	110		
WAYNE E. MILLER	175	133	132	440		
SUSANNAH WHIPPS	2	4	1	7		
WILLIAM OBRIEN	1	0	0	1		
KELLEY WALSH	1	0	0	1		
STEVEN M. LAFOUNTAIN	1	0	0	1		
JOHN R. GREENE	1	0	0	1		
BRIAN GELINAS	0	1	0	1		
LEE CHAUVETTE	0	1	0	1		
WELDON HENDRICKS	0	1	0	1		
MARY E. FORRISTALL	0	0	1	1		
TOM COLO	0	0	1	1		
ALL OTHERS	0	1	1	2		
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>568</b>		
<b>SCHOOL COMMITTEE FROM ATHOL - 3 YEARS</b>					<b>ROYALSTON TOTALS</b>	
BLANKS	31	28	25	84	166	250
WILLIAM J. CALDWELL	143	101	110	354	151	505
MARY E. FORRISTALL	81	49	49	179	122	301
STEVEN KACZMARCZYK	97	72	77	246	90	336
DEBORAH B. KUZMESKAS	112	84	77	273	71	344
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>1136</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>1736</b>
<b>SCHOOL COMMITTEE FROM ROYALSTON</b>						
BLANKS	85	53	54	192		
ROBERTA BOBBI NEWMAN	142	112	110	364		
CHARLIE SCRIBNER	1	0	0	1		
JOHN SMITH	1	0	0	1		
PAUL GUIMOND	1	0	0	1		
VYTO ANDRELINUS	1	1	3	5		
CURTIS DEVENEAU	0	1	0	1		
CHET HALL	0	0	1	1		
ALL OTHERS	1	0	1	2		
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>568</b>		
<b>LIBRARY TRUSTEE</b>						
BLANKS	121	68	81	270		
CAROL A. AMBROZY	178	141	136	455		
FRANCIS W. FOSTER	165	125	121	411		
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0		

TOTALS	464	334	338	1136
<b>HOUSING AUTHORITY</b>				
BLANKS	46	20	25	91
EDWARD F. LEDGARD	186	147	144	477
ALL OTHERS	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	232	167	169	568
<b>CONSTABLE - 3 YEARS</b>				
BLANKS	42	21	27	90
KENNETH VAIDULAS	186	145	139	470
KAREN JENNINGS	2	1	2	5
ALL OTHERS	2	0	1	3
TOTALS	232	167	169	568
<b>QUESTION 1 - GENERATOR</b>				
BLANKS	42	23	34	99
YES	88	70	64	222
NO	102	74	71	247
TOTALS	232	167	169	568

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

We have canvassed the returns of votes cast in Precincts 1, 2, and 3, Town of Athol, and the State Primary this date, and declare the foregoing to be so.

In accordance with the requirements of General Laws, chapter 51, section 61, as amended, we certify that the number of registered voters in each voting precinct in the Town of Athol at the close of registration on August 27, 2008 was as follows.

Precinct  
Registered Voters  
1  
2420  
2  
2135  
3  
2046  
Total: 6601

Nancy E. Burnham  
Gordon D. Briggs  
Hugh A. Horrigan  
Saverio Kaczmarczyk

## TOWN MEETINGS

### FALL TOWN MEETING OCTOBER 20, 2008 MINUTES

The 2008 Fall Town Meeting was held on October 20, 2008 in Memorial Hall. Voters entering the meeting were checked in on the list of registered voters and there were 105 present when the Moderator called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The number of voters checked as being present was as follows: Precinct 1, 55; Precinct 2, 36; and Precinct 3, 27. Total present: 118

Town Clerk, Nancy Burnham, read the return of service from Constable Leon Lozier.

The Moderator called for a moment of silence for the following:

**John A. Holloway** – He was employed by the Athol Cemetery Department

**Stephanie Krustapentus** - She was a member of the School Committee and was instrumental in building the new high school.

**James M. O’Laughlin, Jr.** – He was a Registrar of Voters for over 30 years

**Richard C. Newton** – He served on the Finance Committee, the Personnel Board and the School Committee.

**C. Virginia Adams** – She was a teacher at Athol High School for several years.

**Annabelle Haven** – She was a former member of the Conservation Commission

**Article 1** On the Motion of Cynthia Hahn Caldwell, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend the Athol Zoning Bylaws Article III, Sec. 3.2 by deleting the following language as provided in the warrant and printed below;

3.2 Accessory Buildings and Uses

3.2.1 Accessory Building – No accessory building or structure, except a permitted sign or a roadside stand, shall be located within a required front yard area. A detached accessory building may be located in the rear or side yard areas and on the same lot as the principal building, provided that no more than forty (40%) percent of the required yard area shall be so occupied, and further provided that an accessory building or

structure shall not be located nearer than ten (10) feet from the principal building. A detached accessory building or structure shall not be located closer than ten (10) feet from other structures. Detached accessory buildings or structures may be located ten (10) feet from side and rear lot lines. On lots described in Section 1.4.2 (generally those existing before this By Law became effective) having less than 8,000 s.f., accessory buildings or structures may be constructed to within 3 feet of a lot line.

**And replacing it with following as provided in the warrant and printed below:**

3.2 Accessory Buildings and Uses

3.2.1 No accessory building or structure, except a permitted sign or a roadside stand, shall be located within a required front yard area.

3.2.2 Detached accessory buildings or structures may be located in the rear or side

- yard areas and on the same lot as the principal building provided that the maximum lot coverage defined in section 2.6 is not exceeded.
- 3.2.3 Detached accessory buildings or structures shall not be located closer than ten (10) feet from other structures, including from the principal building.
- 3.2.4 Detached accessory buildings or structures greater than 100 square feet shall be a minimum distance of ten (10) feet from
- side and rear lot lines.
- 3.2.5 Detached accessory buildings or structures of 100 square feet or less shall be a minimum distance of three (3) feet from side and rear lot lines.
- 3.2.6 As per section 1.4.2 (Lots existing before this bylaw became effective), accessory buildings or structures on building lots having less than 8,000 square feet, may be constructed to within 3 feet of a lot line.

*Required 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s vote. The vote was 87 yes and 0 no.*

## Article 2

On the Motion of Michelle Leeman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend the Athol Zoning Bylaws Article II, Section 2.3, Use Regulation Schedule, by deleting the following use under the category of RECREATIONAL USES, the sub-category of Adult motion picture theater, in its entirety as provided below and printed in the warrant.

INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL  
GENERAL COMMERCIAL  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
COMMERCIAL  
CENTRAL COMMERCIAL  
RESIDENCE C  
RESIDENCE B  
RESIDENCE A

### 2.3 Use Regulation Schedule

#### RECREATIONAL USES

Adult motion picture theater

<u>RA</u>	<u>RB</u>	<u>RC</u>	<u>CA</u>	<u>CB</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>I</u>
N	N	N	SP14	N	N	N

*Required 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s vote. The vote was 96 yes and 0 no.*

**Article 3** On the Motion of Pamela Caranfa, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend the Athol Zoning Bylaws Article IV "Definitions" by deleting the following language as provided below and printed in the warrant;

Structure. Anything constructed or erected, the use of which requires fixed location on the ground, or attachment to something located on the ground, including swimming pools have a capacity of 4,000 gallons or more, but not including walls or fences of buildings have less than 100 square feet of floor area. Buildings of 100 square feet or less shall be a minimum distance of three feet from all lot lines.

**And replacing it with the following as provided below and printed in the warrant:**

Structure. Anything constructed or erected, the use of which requires a fixed location on the ground, or attachment to something located on the ground, including swimming pools, but excluding walls and fences.

*Required 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s vote. The vote was 96 yes and 7 no.*

**Article 4** On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend the Athol Zoning Bylaws Article III, Sec. 3.3 by deleting the following language as provided below and printed in the warrant;

3.3 Swimming Pools All swimming pools shall be subject to the State Building Code as applicable.

3.3.1. All private outdoor swimming pools having a capacity of 4,000 gallons or more shall be subject to the following:

3.3.3.1. Such private swimming pools shall be completely surrounded at all times by a fence or wall not less than four (4) feet in height above grade. The pool wall itself may serve as a fence.

3.3.3.2. Any such fence or wall shall be so constructed as to not have openings,

holes, or gaps larger than four inches in any dimension except for doors, gates and picket fences; in the latter case, however, the gaps between pickets shall not exceed four inches.

3.3.3.3 all gates or doors opening through such enclosure shall be of not less than four feet in height and shall be equipped with a self-closing and self-latching device located at least four (4) feet above the underlying



ground  
and  
inaccessibl  
e from the  
outside to  
small  
children.  
Every such  
gate or  
door shall  
be kept  
locked at  
all times  
when the  
swimming  
pool is not  
in use, and  
any  
ladders  
shall be  
removed.

#### 3.3.3.4

natural  
barrier,  
hedge, pool  
cover or  
other  
protective  
device  
approved by  
the Zoning  
Agent may  
be used in  
lieu of a  
fence or  
wall so long  
as the  
degree of  
protection  
afforded by  
the  
substitute  
device or  
structure is  
not less than

the  
protection  
provided by  
the  
enclosure,  
gate or latch  
described  
herein.

#### 3.3.3.5

All pools  
must  
observe all  
yard  
requireme  
nts  
applicable  
to the  
principal  
structures.  
Permits  
are  
required  
from the  
building  
inspector,  
and from  
the Board  
of Health  
for their  
erection.

**And replacing it with the following  
language as provided below and printed  
in the warrant.**

#### 3.3 Swimming Pools

3.3.1 All outdoor swimming pools shall  
be subject to the following:

3.3.1.1. All outdoor  
swimming  
pools shall be  
subjected to the  
Massachusetts  
State Building

Code as applicable.

3.3.1.2. All outdoor swimming pools that are subject to the Massachusetts State Building Code must observe all yard requirements applicable to the principal structures.

3.3.1.3. Permits for the construction of outdoor swimming pools are required from the building department and, if applicable, from the Board of Health.

*Required 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s vote. The vote was 105 yes and 1 no.*

**Article 5** On the Motion of Cynthia Hahn Caldwell, it was **VOTED:** That the Town acquire the parcel of land described below and printed in the warrant by purchase, gift, or by eminent domain to include as property within the layout of Chase Road:

PARCEL of land located in the Town of Athol, Worcester County, Massachusetts, situated on the southeasterly side of Chase Road near its' intersection with Fairview Avenue, and being more particularly

described by metes and bounds, as follows;

BEGINNING at the northeasterly corner herein at a point in the southeasterly line of the proposed alteration of Chase Road, and running thence;

- 1.) S. 10° 48' 51" W. with the easterly line of the proposed alteration of Chase Road, a distance of 46.27 feet, to an angle point, and running thence;
- 2.) S. 47° 37' 55" W., with the easterly line of the proposed alteration of Chase Road, a distance of 30.82 feet, to a point in the easterly line of said proposed alteration of Chase Road, and running thence;
- 3.) N. 06° 04' 28" E. with the easterly line of the 1909 layout of Chase Road, a distance of 28.47 feet, to an angle point, and running thence;
- 4.) N. 36° 52' 40" E. with the easterly line of said 1909 layout, a distance of 47.39 feet, to the place of beginning.

CONTAINING a calculated area of 772 sq. ft. more or less, and being shown as Parcel A on plan entitled "Plan of Alteration, Chase Road, Athol, Ma., owned by the Town of Athol", dated 26 August 2008, scale 1"=40', by the office of Edward T. Berry, P.L.S., to be recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan.

BEING a portion of the premises owned by Gregg & Lisa Duquette, described in deed recorded said Registry of Deeds in Book 41232, Page 340.

*Required 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s vote. The vote was 98 yes and 1 no.*

**Article 6** On the Motion of Michelle Leeman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town acquire a parcel of land as described below and printed in the warrant by purchase, gift, or by eminent domain to include as property within the layout of Chase Road:

PARCEL of land located in the Town of Athol, Worcester County, Massachusetts, situated on the southeasterly side of Chase Road 203.63 southwesterly along the southeasterly line of the proposed alteration, from Parcel A on the hereinafter referred to plan, and being more particularly described by metes and bounds, as follows;

BEGINNING at the northeasterly corner herein at a point in the southeasterly line of the proposed alteration of Chase Road, and running thence;

- 1.) S. 47° 37' 55" W. with the easterly line of the proposed alteration of Chase Road , a distance of 48.64 feet, to an angle point, and running thence;
- 2.) N. 26° 38' 01" E., with the easterly line of the 1909 layout of Chase Road, a distance of 33.72 feet, to an

angle point in said layout of Chase Road, and running thence;

- 3.) N. 82° 46' 16" E. with the easterly line of the 1909 layout of Chase Road, a distance of 20.99 feet, to the place of beginning.

CONTAINING a calculated area of 294 sq. ft. more or less, and being shown as Parcel B on plan entitled "Plan of Alteration, Chase Road, Athol, Ma., owned by the Town of Athol", dated 26 August 2008, scale 1"=40', by the office of Edward T. Berry, P.L.S., to be recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds.

BEING a portion of the premises owned by Gregg & Lisa Duquette, described in deed recorded said Registry of Deeds in Book 41232, Page 340.

*Required 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s vote. The vote was 99 yes and 1 no.*

**Article 7** On the Motion of Pamela Caranfa, it was **VOTED:** That the Town declare the property described below and printed in the warrant as surplus and to direct the Board of Selectmen to dispose of the property in accordance with M.G.L, c. 30B:

PARCEL of land located in the Town of Athol, Worcester County, Massachusetts, situated on the southeasterly side of Chase Road near its' intersection with Fairview Avenue, and being more particularly

described by metes and bounds, as follows;

BEGINNING at the northeasterly corner herein at a point in the southeasterly line of the proposed alteration of Chase Road, and running thence;

- 1.) S. 6° 04' 28" W. with the centerline of the 1909 layout of Chase Road , a distance of 88.77 feet, to an angle point, and running thence;
- 2.) S. 82° 46' 16" W., with said centerline of Chase Road, a distance of 102.31 feet, to a point in the southerly line of said proposed alteration of Chase Road, and running thence;
- 3.) N. 47° 37' 55" E. with the southerly line of the proposed alteration, a distance of 150.09 feet, to the place of beginning.

CONTAINING a calculated area of 4,419 sq. ft. more or less, and being shown as Parcel C on plan entitled "Plan of Alteration, Chase Road, Athol, Ma., owned by the Town of Athol", dated 26 August 2008, scale 1"=40', by the office of Edward T. Berry, P.L.S., to be recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book.

BEING the westerly half of Chase Road as discontinued and abandoned by vote of the Town of Athol at the Annual Town Meeting in April of 2008, and that portion of two parcels of land, owned by the Town of Athol, described in deeds recorded in the Worcester District Registry of

Deeds in Book 4607, Page 501 and Book 4614, Page 218, lying southerly of the proposed alteration.

*Passed by a majority vote.*

#### **Article 8**

On the Motion of Brian Dodge, it was **VOTED:** That the Town approve the Certified Project Application submitted by Whipps Inc., for construction of an addition to the facility located at 370 South Athol Road, within the Whipps South Athol Road Economic Opportunity Area, that area known as Athol Assessor map 24, lot 64, and approve the form of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) agreement between Whipps Inc. and the Town of Athol. This approval is for the information contained in both the Economic Opportunity Area Application and the Project Certification Application.

*Required 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s vote. The vote was 109 yes and 2 no.*

#### **Article 9**

On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:** That the Town accept a donation of a parcel of land which is approximately 22 acres on Doe Valley Road identified through the Worcester District Registry of Deeds Book 9392 Page 331 and further identified as Town Assessors' Map 48 Parcel 57 to be maintained as open space.

*Passed by a majority vote.*

**Article 10** On the Motion of Cynthia Hahn Caldwell, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize and direct the Board of Selectmen to file with the Massachusetts Legislature a petition for special legislation to remove the Part-Time Call Firefighters of the Athol Fire Department from the provisions of M.G.L. c. 31, the civil service law and the regulations promulgated thereunder, provided that such legislation shall not impair the civil service status of incumbents in the position of call firefighter upon the effective date of such legislation.

*Passed by a majority vote.*

**Article 11** On the Motion of Michelle Leeman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town ratify the Professional Firefighters of Athol, Local 1751 negotiated collective bargaining agreement for July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2011 and to transfer the sum of \$36,000 from stabilization to the Fire Department's budget for the purpose of covering the first year expenses.

*Required 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s vote. The vote was 109 yes and 2 no.*

**Article 12** On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:** That the Town ratify the

S.E.I.U. AFL-CIO-CLO  
Local 888 Town Hall  
Employees, Library and  
Dispatchers negotiated  
collective bargaining  
agreement for July 1, 2008 to  
June 30, 2011. All monies to  
fund FY09 have been  
incorporated into the existing  
FY09 general budget. The  
FY09 budget will require the  
following transfers:

From	Amount	To
Animal Control		Assessors
	\$1,010	
Animal Control		Building Dept.
	\$1,880	
Town Clerk		Planner
	\$ 690	
Town Clerk		DPW Admin.
	\$ 465	
HealthCollector Treasurer	\$2,580	Health
	\$ 485	
Health		Wiring Insp.
	\$ 45	

*Passed by a majority vote.*

**Article13** On the Motion of Pamela Caranfa, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer \$68,262.90 from Stabilization to pay for Athol's share of the cost to replace the bleachers at the Athol High School.

*Required 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s vote. The vote was 92 yes and 4 no.*

**Article 14** On the Motion of Brian Dodge, it was **VOTED:** That the Town establish a Specialized Stabilization Account to cover increased deductibles for property insurance through a transfer of \$20,000 from stabilization and \$5,000 from the Property & Casualty Insurance budget item within the FY09 Annual Budget to cover a potential deductible.

*Required 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s vote. The vote was 102 yes and 2 no.*

**Article 15** On the Motion of Cynthia Hahn Caldwell, it was **VOTED:** That the Town transfer \$30,000 from the Sale of Real Estate Proceeds to the Building Department's budget line item, Secure Buildings, for the purpose of demolishing or securing unsafe structures, to remove debris and other materials for the health and safety of the public.

*Passed by a majority vote.*

**Article 16** On the Motion of Michelle Leeman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Massachusetts Department of Fisheries & Wildlife to place a conservation restriction on the Newton Reservoir property as identified by Athol Assessor Map 43, Parcels 1, 4, and 5 and Map

39, Parcel 4 to prevent future development on said property.

*Passed by a majority vote.*

**Article 17** On the Motion of Pamela Caranfa, it was **VOTED:** That the Town sell to the Massachusetts Department of Fisheries & Wildlife town-owned land located in Athol and Phillipston commonly referred to as "1,000 Acre Reservoir" and "1,000 Acre Swamp" and as further identified in Athol Assessor's Map 3, Parcel 32 and Map 43, Parcels 9 and 49 and by Phillipston Assessor's Map 38, Parcels 2, 13, and 14; Map 43, Parcels 7, 8, and 57; Map 45, Parcels 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 and Map 46, Parcels 3, 4, and 6 with 60 percent of the proceeds to be used for the development of open space and recreation.

*Passed by a majority vote.*

Meeting dissolved at 8:02 p.m.

*Attest:*

*Nancy E. Burnham  
Town Clerk*

# JANUARY 8, 2009 MINUTES

The 2009 Special Town Meeting was held  
on January 8, 2009 in Memorial Hall.

## SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Voters entering the meeting were checked in on the list of registered voters and there were 70 present when the Moderator called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m. The number of voters checked as being present was as follows: Precinct 1, 32; Precinct 2, 26; and Precinct 3, 16. Total present: 74

Town Clerk, Nancy Burnham, read the return of service from Constable Leon Lozier.

**Article 1**      On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:** That the Town of Athol reduce expenses from appropriate of taxation by \$178,282 for FY2009 budget as written below and printed in the warrant:

	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Difference</b>
<b><u>Department</u></b>	<b><u>FY2007</u></b>	<b><u>FY2008</u></b>	<b><u>FY2009</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>FY2009</u></b>
Accountant	107,761	110,884	116,088	113,088	3,000
Assessor	97,243	100,781	103,067	102,767	300
Animal Control	42,076	43,319	44,834	44,634	200
Building/Zoning Dept	93,399	98,460	101,114	98,727	2,387
Capital Planning Com	1,270	1,270	1,270	1,270	-
Council on Aging	46,133	51,276	112,546	107,746	4,800
Conservation Comm	17,556	18,206	17,556	17,556	-
Contributory Retirement	924,168	981,727	1,112,267	1,112,267	-
Education	3,341,393	3,348,943	3,639,064	3,639,064	-
Elections & Registration	20,774	21,194	24,294	22,294	2,000
FWAC	160,383	152,184	152,184	102,184	50,000
Fire Dept	1,198,770	1,220,785	1,377,851	1,363,851	14,000
Health Dept	113,798	110,265	117,160	111,563	5,597
Library	370,561	386,258	423,598	413,599	9,999
Parking	7,998	9,848	9,848	9,148	700
Personnel Board	350	350	350	350	-
Planning Board	990	990	1,515	1,515	-
Planning/CDBG	125,161	132,781	179,476	179,476	-
Police Dept	1,407,347	1,547,223	1,569,112	1,546,112	23,000
Professional Services	193,075	232,305	244,805	237,305	7,500
Public Works	1,312,377	1,421,128	1,456,688	1,436,688	20,000
Recreation	92,859	45,584	55,500	55,500	-
Beaches		32,975	33,375	33,375	-

Sealer W & M	7,810	7,810	7,810	7,710	100
Board of Selectmen	438,761	477,638	500,108	486,108	14,000
Teen Task Force	-	-	-	-	-
Town Buildings	139,918	139,838	144,724	140,724	4,000
Town Collector	112,239	113,345	124,069	119,069	5,000
Town Clerk	99,940	104,232	124,447	122,647	1,800
Town Manager	86,743	86,493	138,789	136,639	2,150
Treasurer	2,050,810	2,422,120	2,708,677	2,701,508	7,169
Veterans	131,449	157,070	181,291	181,291	-
Wire Inspector	20,035	19,782	22,254	21,674	580
Zoning Bd of Appeals	3,230	3,230	4,130	4,130	-
Capital Planning Com	919,030	1,084,704	1,041,045	1,041,045	-
Total-Operational	13,685,407	14,684,998	15,890,906	15,712,624	178,282

*Passed by a majority vote.*

**Article 2.**     **No Motion, No Action taken on** “To see if the Town of Athol will vote to reduce expenditures, appropriate funds, or transfer funds from any capital improvements funds, any available funds, or any combination thereof, to balance the FY 2009 budget; or act in relation thereto.”

**Article 3.**     On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town of Athol reduce expenses by \$15,000 and reduce departmental receipts by \$15,000 from the FY 2009 Water Enterprise fund as written below and printed in the warrant:

**WATER ENTERPRISE FUND**

<b>EXPENSES</b>		Operational:	\$740,662
Debt:	\$271,420	the Town of Athol reduce departmental receipts by \$48,200 and increase appropriation from retained earnings by \$48,200 for the FY 2009 Sewer Enterprise Budget as printed in the warrant and written below:	
Health Ins:	\$7,173		
Overhead:	\$117,983		
Capital Reserve:	\$25,000		
Surplus:	<u>\$12,788</u>		
	\$1,175,026		
<b>REVENUES</b>	Dept. Receipts:	\$1,053,353	
	Free Cash:	\$96,673	
	Capital Reserve:	<u>\$25,000</u>	
		\$1,175,026	

**SEWER ENTERPRISE  
FUND NEW BUDGET  
EXPENSES** Operational:  
\$733,792  
Debt:  
\$432,031

*Passed by a majority vote.*

**Article 4.**     On the Motion of David Ames, it was **VOTED:** That



Health Ins.:		\$564,049
\$ 35,859		
Overhead:		
\$119,591		
Capital:		
Reserve:		
\$ 75,000		
Surplus:		
<u>\$ 0</u>		

\$1,396,273

<b>REVENUES</b>	Dept.
Receipts:	\$1,206,300
	Free Cash:
\$ 0	
	Capital:
\$ 75,000	Reserve:
	App from R/E
<u>\$ 114,973</u>	

\$1,396,273

*Passed by a majority vote.*

**Article 5.** On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:** That the Town of Athol reduce expenses by \$25,066, reduce department receipts by \$54,115 and increase appropriation from retained earnings by \$29,049 from FY 2009 Transfer Station Enterprise fund as written below and printed in the warrant:

# **TRANSFER ENTERPRISE FUND**

<b>EXPENSES</b>	Operational:	\$472,178
	Debt:	\$59,800
	Health Ins:	\$13,000
	Overhead:	\$13,004
	Capital Reserve:	\$0
	Surplus:	<u>\$6,067</u>

<b>REVENUES</b>	Dept. Receipts:	\$535,000
	Free Cash:	\$0
	Capital Reserve:	\$0
	App from R/E	<u>\$29,049</u>
		\$564,049

Passed by a majority vote.

Meeting dissolved at 7:42 p.m..

A True Copy, Attest:

Nancy E. Burnham  
Town Clerk

## **SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**

**MAY 4, 2009**

## **MINUTES**

The 2009 Special Town Meeting was held on May 4, 2009 in Memorial Hall. Voters entering the meeting were checked in on the list of registered voters and there were present when the Moderator called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. The number of voters checked as being present was as follows: Precinct 1, 43; Precinct 2, 27; and Precinct 3, 26. Total present: 96

Town Clerk, Nancy Burnham, read the return of service from Constable Leon Lozier.

**Article 1** On the Motion of Cynthia Hahn Caldwell, it was **VOTED:** That the Town

amend Chapter II, Section 1 of the Town Bylaws by deleting the following language:

The annual election of town officers shall be held on the first Monday in April and the spring annual town meeting for appropriations and other business on the fourth Monday thereafter to consider and adopt an annual operating and capital budget and to act on financial and other matters. The meeting shall be continued on other days, until all articles in the warrant shall have been acted upon.

and replacing it with the following:

The annual election of town officers shall be held on the first Monday in April and the spring annual town meeting for appropriations and other business on the second Monday in June to consider and adopt an annual operating and capital budget and to act on financial and other matters. The meeting shall be continued on other days, until all articles in the warrant shall have been acted upon.

*Passed by a majority vote on May 4, 2009.*

**Article 2** On the Motion of Robert Parks, it was **VOTED:** That action on Article 2 be postponed to June 8, 2009.

*Passed by a majority vote on May 4, 2009.*

**Article 3** On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:** That the Town reduce FY09 capital expenditures by \$297,366 as shown on the handout; transfer \$85,000 from police, \$30,000 from treasurer and \$20,000 from council on aging and \$10,000 from professional services (total \$145,000) to finance and warrant advisory committee to balance the FY 2009 budget. *Passed by a majority vote on May 4, 2009.*

**Article 4** On the Motion of Cynthia Hahn Caldwell, it was **VOTED:** That action on Article 4 be postponed to June 8, 2009. *Passed by a majority vote on May 4, 2009.*

On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:** That the Town adjourn this Special Town Meeting until June 8, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. *Passed by a majority vote on May 4, 2009.*

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

A True Copy, Attest:

Nancy E. Burnham  
Town Clerk

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
ADJOURNED TO JUNE 8, 2009  
MINUTES**

The 2009 Special Town Meeting was adjourned to June 8, 2009 in Memorial Hall. Voters entering the meeting were checked in on the list of registered voters and there were present when the Moderator called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. The number of voters checked as being present was as follows: Precinct 1, 38; Precinct 2, 38; and Precinct 3, 28. Total present: 104.

Town Clerk, Nancy Burnham, read the adjourned notice of Special Town Meeting as printed in the Athol Daily News on May 7, 2009.

At 7:00 p.m., Town Moderator, Lawrence McLaughlin motioned that the Annual Town Meeting be postponed until the completion of the Special Town Meeting. The motion was seconded by the Board of Selectmen. The vote was unanimous.

**Article 2** On the Motion of Robert Parks, it was **VOTED:** That the Town purchase contingent on sale of the old middle school located at 494 School Street and using Five Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars from those proceeds a parcel of land located on South Athol Road and further described by Assessor's Map 19, Lot 4 and as recorded at the Registry of Deeds as Book 27847 Page 056 and Book 39958 Page 238 for the

purpose of Open Space and/or other uses. *Required 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s vote. The vote was 105 yes and 28 no on June 8, 2009.*

**Article 4** To see if the Town will vote to suspend or reduce the contribution of five percent (5%) of ambulance revenue to Receipts Reserved for Ambulance Appropriation for fiscal year 2009, with all receipts being allocated to the General Fund; *or act in relation thereto.*

Meeting dissolved at 7:15 p.m.

Attest:

Nancy E. Burnham  
Town Clerk

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
MAY 4, 2009  
MINUTES**

Prior to the meeting being called to order, the Board of Selectmen handed out the Annual Margaret Grazis Employee of the Year and Citizen of the Year Awards. Employee of the year was awarded to Diana

Cooley, Office Manager for Department of Public Works. Citizen of the Year was awarded to Robert Muzzy.

The 2009 Annual Town Meeting was held on May 4, 2009 in Memorial Hall. Voters entering the meeting were checked in on the list of registered voters and there were present when the Moderator called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The number of voters checked as being present was as follows: Precinct 1, 58; Precinct 2, 38; and Precinct 3, 32. Total present: 128

Town Clerk, Nancy Burnham, read the return of service from Constable Leon Lozier.

Town Moderator, Lawrence McLaughlin, called for a moment of silence for the following:

Ralph Belongie – He was a member of the Athol Fire Department Frogmen and participated in search and rescue with the department during the early 1960's.

Lillian G. Earley – She was a member of the Athol Housing Authority from 1981 –1988.

George S. Geikie – He was a member of the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee from 1974-1977.

On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:** That the Town postpone action on Article 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 21, 31, & 33 until June 8, 2009. *Passed by a majority vote.*

**Article 1** On the Motion of Cynthia Hahn Caldwell, it was **VOTED:** That the Town choose all necessary Town Officers not already elected. *Passed by a majority vote on May 4, 2009.*

**Article 2** *On the Motion of Robert Parks, it was VOTED: That the Town review and act upon the reports of the officers of the Town and to receive the reports of any committee. Passed by a majority vote on May 4, 2009.*

**Article 3** On the Motion of Gary H. Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town accept all donations and gifts received and turned into the treasury during fiscal year 2010. *Passed by a majority vote on May 4, 2009.*

**Article 4** On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:** That the Town accept all cemetery and other funds received and provided to the treasury during fiscal year 2010. *Passed by a majority vote on May 4, 2009.*

**Article 5** On the Motion of Cynthia Hahn Caldwell, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the treasurer to enter into a compensating balance agreement or agreements for fiscal year 2010 pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53F of the Massachusetts General Laws. *Passed by a majority vote on May 4, 2009.*

**Article 6** On the Motion of Robert Parks, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for,

accept, and expend any and all State and Federal grants for fiscal year 2010, for which no additional appropriation

Library Trustees  
None  
School Committee  
None

Revolving fund	Authorized to spend	Revenue source	Use of fund	FY2010 spending limit
Plumbing Inspection	Selectmen	Plumbing Inspection fees	Pay plumbing insp. & asst. plumb. insp.	\$20,000
Recycling	Board of Health Town Manager	Grants, bulky waste, PAYT, recycling containers, compost bins	Expenses and equipment	\$20,000
Gas Inspections	Selectmen	Gas inspection fees	Pay gas insp. asst.	\$2,500
Police Detail	Police Chief	Contractors	Pay police	\$50,000
Waste Facility Debt	Town Manager	Sewer user fees	Pay upgrade debt	\$60,000
Training	Town Manager	Training Fees	Provide Training	\$3,000
Trench Permit	Building Dept.	Permit Fees & Reimbursement	Enforcement	\$5,000
<b>Total Spending</b>				<b>\$160,500</b>

by the Town is require. *Passed by a majority vote on May 4, 2009.*

#### Article 11

On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town set the salaries of several elected officers and appointed positions of the boards of the Town as written below and printed in the warrant.

Moderator  
\$194.00  
Selectmen, Chairman  
\$1652.00  
Selectmen, all other (4)  
\$1377.00  
Assessors, Chairman  
\$1652.00  
Assessors, all other (1)  
\$1350.00  
Constable  
None  
Board of Health, Chairman  
\$1652.00  
Board of Health, all other (2)  
\$1377.00

*Passed by a majority vote on May 4, 2009.*

#### Article 15

On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:** That the Town establish and authorize the following revolving funds for certain Town departments under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½ for fiscal year 2010 as printed in the warrant and written below.

*Passed by a majority vote on May 4, 2009.*

#### Article 18

On the Motion of Cynthia Hahn Caldwell, it was **VOTED:** That the Town ratify the Athol Public Works Government Employees Union; Local 6, negotiated collective bargaining agreement for July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2012. *Passed by a*

*majority vote on April 4, 2009.*

**Article 19** On the Motion of Robert Parks, it was **VOTED:** That the Town vote as required in MGL c.30B Section 12(b), to allow the fire department to enter into a multi-year contract, up to twelve years, for ambulance billing services. *Passed by a majority vote on April 4, 2009.*

**Article 20** No Motion, No Action taken on “To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds or by borrowing a sum of money for the purpose of purchasing a wheel chair transport van and related equipment to be used by the Fire Department; *or act in relation thereto.*”

**Article 22** On the Motion of Marie Guilmette, it was **DEFEATED:** That the Town cease the practice of adding fluoride to the drinking water of Athol residents. *Defeated by a majority vote on May 4, 2009.*

**Article 23** No Motion, No Action taken on “To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court to enact Special Legislation as follows:

AN ACT AUTHORIZING  
THE DEPARTMENT OF  
FISH AND GAME TO  
ACQUIRE A  
CONSERVATION  
RESTRICTION ON LANDS  
OF THE TOWN OF  
ATHOL, TO ACQUIRE  
LAND FROM THE TOWN  
OF ATHOL, TO GRANT  
EASEMENTS TO THE  
TOWN OF ATHOL, AND  
TO ACQUIRE LAND  
FROM THE TOWN OF  
PHILLIPSTON

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of  
Representatives in General Court  
assembled,

And by the authority of the  
same, as follows:

Section 1. The  
Commonwealth, by and  
through the department of  
fish and game, may take,  
under chapter 79 of the  
General Laws, or otherwise  
acquire, and the Town of  
Athol may convey, easements  
or lesser interests through a  
conservation restriction under  
sections 31, 32, and 33 of  
chapter 184 of the General  
Laws, for the preservation  
and protection of wildlife  
habitat and passive recreation  
and consistent purposes, in  
all or portions of certain  
parcels of land identified in  
section 2. The parcels were  
acquired by the Town of  
Athol for water supply

purposes. The conservation restriction authorized by this act shall allow for the Town to retain the right to use said premises as a potential water supply for the Town. Said conservation restriction, if taken and not otherwise acquired, shall be subject to any easement or lesser interest in land held by any person or governmental agency, except for said Town, that lawfully exists and is recorded in the appropriate registry of deeds, unless the Department of Fish & Game expressly takes the easement or lesser interest through eminent domain under said Chapter 79.

Section 2. The parcels of land, including lands under water, to be subject to said conservation restriction are identified as follows:

Land located in the Town of Athol, Worcester County, Massachusetts, located along South Royalston Road and Bearsden Road, being the land and water owned by the Town of Athol associated with Newton Reservoir and its watershed.

Being the same land shown on Athol Assessor's Map 39 Parcel 4, Map 43 Parcels 1, 4, 5, and 13.

Also being the same land described in various deeds to the Town of Athol recorded

at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds at Book 3543 Page 194, Book 1995 Page 600, and Book 1836 Page 133 (parcels 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 30 in said deed).

Section 3. The Commonwealth, by and through the Department of Fish & Game, may take, under Chapter 79 of the General Laws, or otherwise acquire, and the Town of Athol may convey all or portions of certain parcels of land identified in Section 4 for the preservation and protection of wildlife habitat and passive recreation and consistent purposes. The parcels were acquired by the Town of Athol for water supply purposes. Said parcels, if taken and not otherwise acquired, shall be subject to any easement or lesser interest in land held by any person or governmental agency, except for said Town, that lawfully exists and is recorded in the appropriate registry of deeds, unless the Department of Fish & Game expressly takes the easement or lesser interest through eminent domain under said chapter 79.

Section 4. The parcels of land, including lands under water, to be acquired from the Town of Athol are identified as follows:

Land located in the Towns of Athol and Phillipston, Worcester County, Massachusetts, located along South Royalston Road, Cobb Hill Road, Willis Road, Schoolhouse Road and State Route 2A, being the land and water owned by the Town of Athol associated with Phillipston Reservoir, Thousand Acre Brook and its watershed.

Being the same land shown on Athol Assessor's Map 3 Parcel 32, Map 43 Parcels 9, 49, and 57, and on Phillipston Assessor's Map 38 Parcels 2, 13, and 14, Map 43 Parcels 7 and 8, Map 45 Parcels 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, and Map 46 Parcels 3, 4, and 6.

Also being the same land described in various deeds to the Town of Athol recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds at Book 1981 Page 401, Book 2077 Page 117, Book 2338 Page 177, Book 2283 Page 136, Book 2123 Page 368, Book 3530 Page 442, Book 1947 Page 283, Book 2145 Page 479, and Book 1836 Page 133 (parcels 13 and 14).

Section 5. The Commonwealth, by and through the Department of Fish & Game, may convey to the Town of Athol easements or lesser interests for the purpose of installing and maintaining water mains

across all or portions of a certain parcel of land of said Commonwealth identified in Section 6.

Section 6. The parcel of land to be subject to the water main easements are identified as follows:

Land located in the Town of Athol, Worcester County, Massachusetts, located along Green Street, being the land owned by the Commonwealth, by and through its Department of Fish & Game, associated with the Millers River Wildlife Management Area.

Being the same land shown on Athol Assessor's Map 38 Parcel 28.

Also being the same land described in a deed to the Commonwealth recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds at Book 14525 Page 380, and also being shown on a plan of land recorded at said registry at Plan Book 407 Plan 8.

Section 7. The Commonwealth, by and through the Department of Fish & Game, may convey to the Town of Athol easements or lesser interests for the purpose of drinking water supply wellhead protection over all or portions of a certain parcel of land of said



Commonwealth identified in Section 8.

Section 8. The parcel of land to be subject to the wellhead protection easements are identified as follows:

Land located in the Town of Athol, Worcester County, Massachusetts, located along Pequoig Avenue, Pinedale Avenue, and the Old Fifth Massachusetts Turnpike, being the land owned by the Commonwealth, by and through its Department of Fish & Game, associated with the Millers River Wildlife Management Area (Cass Meadows).

Being the same land shown on Athol Assessor's Map 13 Parcel 9.

Also being the same land described in a deed to the Commonwealth recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds at Book 16041 Page 160, and also being shown on a plan of land recorded at said registry at Plan Book 670 Plan 86.

Section 9. The Commonwealth, by and through the department of fish and game, may take, under chapter 79 of the General Laws, or otherwise acquire, and the Town of Phillipston may convey, a certain parcels of land identified in section 10 for the preservation and protection of wildlife habitat and passive recreation and consistent purposes. The

parcel was acquired by the Town of Phillipston for conservation purposes. Said parcel, if taken and not otherwise acquired, shall be subject to any easement or lesser interest in land held by any person or governmental agency, except for said Town, that lawfully exists and is recorded in the appropriate registry of deeds, unless the Department of Fish & Game expressly takes the easement or lesser interest through eminent domain under said Chapter 79.

Section 10. The parcel of land, including lands under water, to be acquired from the Town of Phillipston is identified as follows:

Land located in the Town of Phillipston, Worcester County, Massachusetts, located northerly of Baldwin Hill Road and westerly of Highland Avenue.

Being the same land shown on Phillipston Assessor's Map 44 Parcel 3.

Also being the same land described in a deed to the Town of Phillipston recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds at Book 13937 Page 356.

Section 11. This act shall take effect upon its passage and upon the filing of the Conservation Restriction and

deeds showing change of ownership at the Worcester County Registry of Deeds; *or act in relation thereto.*”

**Article 24** On the Motion of David Ames , it was **VOTED:** That the Town rescind the vote taken on Article 16 at the Oct. 20, 2008 Fall Town Meeting as printed in the warrant and written below:

On the Motion of Michelle Leeman, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Massachusetts Department of Fisheries & Wildlife to place a conservation restriction on the Newton Reservoir property as identified by Athol Assessor Map 43, Parcels 1, 4, and 5 and Map 39, Parcel 4 to prevent future development on said property.

And to further vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, upon such terms and conditions as it deems appropriate, to (a) grant, convey or transfer to, or to consent to an eminent domain taking by the Massachusetts Department of Fish & Game of a conservation restriction pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 184 § 31–33 on the Newton Reservoir property as identified by Athol Assessor Map 43, Parcels 1, 4, 5, and 13 and Map 39, Parcel 4 to

prevent future development on said property, (b) file as a Home Rule Petition with the General Court legislation for the above-described transfer and conveyance under Article 97 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution, if such legislation is deemed necessary by the Board of Selectmen, and (c) authorize the Board of Selectmen to take all actions and to enter into any and all agreements, covenants, or other instruments necessary to effectuate this vote.

*Required 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s vote. The vote was 94 yes and 1 no on May 4, 2009.*

**Article 25** On the Motion of David Ames, it was **VOTED:** That the Town rescind the vote taken on Article 17 at the Oct. 20, 2008 Fall Town Meeting as printed in the warrant and written below:

On the Motion of Pamela Caranfa, it was **VOTED:** That the Town sell to the Massachusetts Department of Fisheries & Wildlife Town-owned land located in Athol and Phillipston commonly referred to as “1,000 Acre Reservoir” and “1,000 Acre Swamp” and as further identified in Athol Assessor’s Map 3, Parcel 32 and Map 43, Parcels 9 and 49 and by Phillipston Assessor’s Map 38, Parcels 2, 13, and 14; Map 43, Parcels 7, 8, and 57; Map 45, Parcels 3, 4, 5, 7, 8,

9, 10 and 11 and Map 46, Parcels 3, 4, and 6 with 60 percent of the proceeds to be used for the development of open space and recreation.

And to further vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, upon such terms and conditions as it deems appropriate, to (a) grant, convey or transfer to, or to consent to an eminent domain taking by the Massachusetts Department of Fish & Game Town-owned land located in Athol and Phillipston commonly referred to as “1,000 Acre Reservoir” and “1,000 Acre Swamp” and as further identified in Athol Assessor’s Map 3, Parcel 32 and Map 43, Parcels 9, 49, and 57, and by Phillipston Assessor’s Map 38, Parcels 2, 13, and 14, Map 43, Parcels 7 and 8, Map 45, Parcels 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 and Map 46, Parcels 3, 4, and 6, (b) file as a Home Rule Petition with the General Court legislation for the above-described transfer and conveyance under Article 97 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution, if such legislation is deemed necessary by the Board of Selectmen, and (c) authorize the Board of Selectmen to take all actions and to enter into any and all agreements, covenants, or other instruments necessary to effectuate this vote.  
*Required 2/3<sup>rd</sup>’s vote. The*

*vote was 86 yes and 5 no on May 4, 2009.*

## **Article 26**

On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court to enact Special Legislation as printed in the warrant and written below:

“In the Town of Athol, every procurement for the construction, reconstruction, installation, demolition, maintenance or repair of any building by the Town estimated to cost less than \$5,000 shall be obtained through the exercise of sound business practices. The Town shall make and keep a record of each such procurement. Said record shall, at a minimum, include the name and address of the person from whom the services were procured. Written price quotations submitted in accordance with this subsection do not require bid deposits.

Every contract for the construction, reconstruction, installation, demolition, maintenance or repair of any building by the Town estimated to cost not less than \$5,000 but less than \$10,000 shall be awarded to the responsible person offering to perform the contract at the lowest price quotation; provided, however, that the

Town shall seek written price quotations from no fewer than three persons customarily providing the work for which the contract is being made available. When seeking written quotation, the Town shall make and keep a record of the names and addresses of all persons from whom price quotations were sought, the names of the persons submitting price quotations and the date and amount of each price quotation. Written price quotations submitted in accordance with this subsection do not require bid deposits.

Every contract for the construction, reconstruction, installation, demolition, maintenance or repair of any building in Athol estimated to cost not less than \$10,000 but not more than \$25,000 shall be awarded to the responsible person offering to perform the contract at the lowest price. The Town shall make public notification of the contract and shall seek written responses from persons who customarily perform such work. The public notification shall include a scope of work statement that defines the work to be performed and provides potential responders with sufficient information regarding the objectives and requirements of the public agency and the time period

within which the work is to be completed. For purposes of this subsection, "public notification" shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, posting, no less than two weeks before the time specified in the notification for the receipt of responses, the contract and scope of work statement on the website of the public agency and, either on the COMPASS system, so-called, or in the Central Register established under Section 20A of Chapter 9, and in a conspicuous place in or near the primary office of the public agency. Written price quotations submitted in accordance with this subsection do not require bid deposits.

Every contract for the construction, reconstruction, installation, demolition, maintenance or repair of any building in Athol estimated to cost more than \$25,000 but not more than \$100,000 shall be awarded to the lowest responsible and eligible bidder on the basis of competitive bids publicly opened and read in accordance with the procedure set forth in said Section 39M of said Chapter 30. The term "pumping station" as used in this section shall mean a building or other structure which houses solely pumps and appurtenant electrical and plumbing fixtures.

Every contract for the construction, reconstruction, installation, demolition, maintenance or repair of any building in Athol estimated to cost more than \$100,000, except for a pumping station, to be constructed, reconstructed, installed, demolished, maintained or repaired as an integral part of a sewer construction or water construction project bid under the provisions of Section 39M of Chapter 30, shall be awarded to the lowest responsible and eligible general bidder on the basis of competitive bids in accordance with the procedure set forth in General Laws, Chapter 149, Section 44A to 44H, inclusive.

When the General Court has approved the use of an alternative mode of procurement of construction for a project pursuant to Section 7E of Chapter 29, the Town shall follow the policies and procedures of this section and of Section 44B to 44H, inclusive, to the extent compatible with the mode of construction procurement selected.

Notwithstanding the foregoing paragraph, the Town may undertake the procurement of modular buildings, in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 149, Section 44E. The Town may

procure site work for modular buildings, including, but not limited to, construction of foundations, installations, and attachment to external utilities, or any portion of site work, either in combination with the procurement of modular buildings pursuant to General Laws, Chapter 149, Section 44E or on the basis of competitive bids pursuant to the foregoing paragraph. Notwithstanding the foregoing paragraph, the Town may procure energy management services in accordance with Section 11C of Chapter 25A and regulations promulgated there under.”

This Act shall take effect immediately upon passage. The General Court may vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objective of the petition. *Passed by a majority vote on May 4, 2009.*

#### **Article 27**

On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was **VOTED:**  
That the Town approve the **LP Athol Corporation** as an Expedited Permitting site, consistent with the Town Meeting vote of April 7, 2007 that adopted the provisions of Chapter 43D of the Mass General Laws, and to designate as an Economic Opportunity Area (EOA), an area in Athol known as the

**LP Athol Economic Opportunity Area,** described below, and described in the Economic Opportunity Area application dated March 5, 2009, which is on file with the Town Clerk, the Assessor's office, and the Town Planner's office, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to offer, subject to Town Meeting approval, the granting of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) agreements for qualified economic development projects undertaken within said EOA, that area in Athol located on Athol Assessor maps 31, lots 119 through 123, comprising approximately 13.5 acres, and bounded on the north by the Millers River, and intersected by Chestnut Hill Avenue. *Required 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s vote. The vote was 94 yes and 1 no.*

**Article 28** On the Motion of Cynthia Hahn Caldwell, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend the Athol Zoning Bylaws by adding the following language under Article III:

### **3.21 Small-Wind Energy Systems**

#### **3.21.1 Purpose and Intent**

The purpose of this bylaw is to provide criteria to allow for responsibly sited small-wind energy systems as accessory

uses in a manner that protects public health and safety. This bylaw is intended to be used in conjunction with other regulations adopted by the Town, including site plan review and other local bylaws designed to encourage appropriate land use and environmental protection.

This bylaw applies to:

- stand-alone, tower-mounted small-wind energy systems with rated nameplate capacity no greater than 60 kilowatts (kW) proposed to be constructed after the effective date of this bylaw, and,
- roof-mounted, building-integrated or building-mounted vertical-axis wind turbines with a total rated nameplate capacity no greater than 60 kW proposed to be constructed after the effective date of this bylaw.

This bylaw does not apply to utility-scale and wind energy conversion facilities larger than 60 kW of rated nameplate capacity.

Small-wind energy systems generally are designed to provide on-site energy for a residence and accessory structures, as well as municipal buildings, office and industrial parks, commercial shopping

areas, farms, etc. Subject to the requirements of this bylaw, small-wind energy systems shall be permitted in all zoning districts except the Central Commercial District. In the Central Commercial District, vertical-axis wind turbine systems (roof-mounted, building-integrated or building-mounted) are permitted; stand-alone, tower-mounted systems are not permitted in this zone.

### **3.21.2 Definitions**

**Height:** The height of a conventional wind turbine measured from natural grade to the tip of the rotor blade at its highest point, or blade-tip height. The height of a vertical-axis wind turbine measured from natural grade to the top of the structure.

**Rated Nameplate Capacity:** The maximum rated output of electric power production equipment. This output is typically specified by the manufacturer with a “nameplate” on the equipment.

**Small-Wind Energy System:** All equipment, machinery and structures utilized in connection with the conversion of wind to electricity. This includes, but is not limited to, storage, electrical collection and supply equipment, transformers, service and access roads, and one or more wind turbines with a rated nameplate capacity of 60 kW or less. Such systems are

accessory uses under this bylaw.

**Wind Turbine:** A device that converts kinetic wind energy into rotational energy that drives an electrical generator. Horizontal-axis wind turbines consist of a tower with an electrical generator and rotor shaft with two or more blades at the top of the tower and pointed into the wind. Vertical-axis wind turbines are wind energy conversion systems in which the main rotor shaft runs vertically, generators and gearboxes can be placed close to the ground and the turbines do not need to be pointed into the wind.

### **3.21.3 General Requirements (Building Inspector Issued Permit)**

No small-wind energy system shall be erected, constructed, installed or modified as provided in this section without first obtaining a building permit from the Town building inspector. All small-wind energy systems shall be constructed and operated in a manner that minimizes any adverse visual, safety, and environmental impacts. Such permits may also impose reasonable conditions and safeguards and may require the applicant to implement all reasonable measures to mitigate unforeseen adverse impacts of the small-wind energy system, should they occur. No alterations, additions, modifications,

substitutions or deletions shall be made to such wind energy conversion system without approval of the same pursuant to the provisions of this bylaw. General requirements are as follows:

*(1) Submission requirements*

The application for a building permit shall be accompanied by the fee required for a building permit; the application also shall be accompanied by:

(a) A complete plot plan drawn to scale prepared and stamped by a registered land surveyor indicating property lines and physical dimensions of the subject property; right-of-way of any public road that is contiguous with the property; location of the proposed small-wind energy system, including foundations, guy lines and anchors and associated equipment; location, dimensions and types of existing structures on the subject property; existing grade elevation; aboveground utility lines; and, any other significant features or appurtenances;

(b) Structural drawings of the wind tower, including pad design and guy wire design, if applicable, prepared and stamped by a registered Professional Engineer licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts certifying that the tower (including footings

and rotor system) is designed to comply with the wind load requirements of the Massachusetts Building Code; and,

(c) Drawings and specifications of the wind system, including manufacturer and model, tower height, tower foundation blueprints or drawings, generator, hub and blades, electrical support facilities, including transformers, cables and control devices, prepared and stamped by a registered Professional Engineer licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

A permit issued pursuant to this bylaw shall be transferable. A permit issued pursuant to this bylaw shall expire if the small-wind energy system is not installed and functioning within 24-months from the date the permit is issued.

*(2) General Siting Standards*

Wind turbines shall be set back a distance of no less than 1.1 times the total height of the wind turbine from all overhead utility lines, public road or right of way and property boundaries.

Where applicable, the minimum distance from any guy wire to the property line is 10 feet,



and no guy wires shall pass over any ground transmission lines. The maximum height of a wind turbine shall be 100 feet measured from the mean grade surrounding the support pad(s); this height allowance represents an exception from maximum building heights per Article II, Section 2.6 Intensity of Use Schedule. No more than one stand-alone tower per lot or on contiguous lots held in common ownership shall be allowed.

*(3) Design Standards*

The small-wind energy system shall remain painted or finished in the non-reflective color or finish originally applied by the manufacturer.

*(4) Lighting and Signage*

Wind turbines shall be lighted only if required by the Federal Aviation Administration. Lighting of other parts of the small-wind energy system, such as appurtenant structures, shall be limited to that required for safety and operational purposes, and shall be reasonably shielded from abutting properties. Signage shall be restricted to reasonable identification of the manufacturer of the small-wind energy system along with a warning of

electrical shock or high voltage and shall defer to the requirements of the town sign regulations.

*(5) Safety, Aesthetic and Environmental Standards*

Wind turbines or other structures that are part of a small-wind energy system shall be designed to prevent unauthorized access. For instance, a tower shall be designed and installed so as to not provide step bolts or a ladder readily accessible to the public for a minimum height of 8 feet above the ground.

The minimum distance between the ground and any part of the rotor or blade systems shall be 20 feet. All power transmission lines from small-wind energy systems to any building or other structure shall be located underground. At least one sign shall be posted at the base of the tower warning of electrical shock or high voltage.

Each conventional wind energy conversion system must be equipped with both manual and automatic controls to limit the rotational speed of the blades below the design limits of the rotor to prevent uncontrolled rotation.

No small-wind energy system shall be located in any required front yard area.

*(6) Noise*

The small-wind energy system and associated equipment shall conform with provisions of the Department of Environmental Protection Division of Air Quality Noise Regulations (310 CMR 7.10), unless the Department and the Zoning Board of Appeals agree that those provisions shall not be applicable.

*(7) Land Clearing, Soil Erosion and Habitat Impacts*

Clearing of natural vegetation shall be limited to that which is necessary for the construction, operation and maintenance of the small-wind energy system and is otherwise prescribed by applicable laws, regulations and bylaws, including regulations set forth by the Conservation Commission.

*(8) Monitoring and Maintenance*

The applicant shall maintain the small-wind energy system in good condition. Maintenance shall include, but not be limited to, painting, structural repairs, and security measures. Every fifteen (15) years, or upon request by the Building Inspector, the owner shall submit a structural report by a Massachusetts-registered

professional engineer to the Building Inspector attesting to the structural integrity of the wind generator, tower and/or support system.

*(9) Abandonment or*

*Decommissioning*

Any small-wind energy system that has reached the end of its useful life or has been abandoned shall be removed. A small-wind energy system shall be considered abandoned when it fails to operate for one year. Upon a Notice of Abandonment issued by the Building Inspector, the small-wind energy system owner will have 30 days to provide sufficient evidence that the system has not been abandoned or the town shall have the authority to enter the owner's property and remove the system at the owner's expense.

*(10) Excess power generation*

A system operated to provide more than 50% of its rated nameplate capacity for off-site energy consumption shall not be considered a small-wind energy system except in cases where such power is consumed by buildings and structures on an adjacent property or within 1,000 feet, whichever is greater. Also, this bylaw shall not be interpreted to prohibit the sale of excess power generated from time to time from a system designed to

meet the energy needs of the principal use.

*(11) Systems for use*

*in common*

Contiguous property owners may construct a small-wind energy system for use in common, provided that the required setback is maintained relative to the property lines of abutters who are not participating in the scheme; in addition, such a system may not be rented or leased to any other corporation or individual and shall be for the sole use and benefit of the owners of property which utilize such system or the tenants or lessees of such property. The mechanical or electrical energy produced or generated by such system may not be sold or otherwise made available to any individual or corporation other than the owner, tenant or lessee of the subject properties. If such wind energy conversion system is to be used in common, all owners and users of such system shall be made part of the application, and appropriate underwriter certificates, etc., shall be submitted for all properties, buildings and structures to be served by such system.

**3.21.4 Criteria  
Exceptions**

If the proposed small-wind energy system requires exceptions from the criteria

of the general requirements set forth above, then the applicant must seek a special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Zoning Board of Appeals will consider any and all exceptions from general requirements, such as:

- Roof-mounted, building-integrated or building-mounted vertical-axis wind turbines exceeding height limitations defined in Article II, Section 2.6 Intensity of Use Schedule.
- Television, radio or other communication antenna may be affixed or otherwise made a part of the small-wind energy system if such antennae are allowed uses in the zone.
- Reduction of the minimum setback distance if abutters directly within the fall zone of the tower provide written endorsement so long as said wind turbine are set back 1.1 times their height from inhabited structures on adjacent properties, overhead utility lines and public road or right of way; in such instances, said abutters shall record a deed restriction.

**3.21.5 Required  
Recommendations**

In addition to the general conditions and procedures established in Section 1.2.1.2 of the Zoning Bylaw for all special permits, the following requirements and procedures shall apply:

**Compliance with Laws, Bylaws and Regulations:**

The construction and operation of all such proposed small-wind energy systems shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable safety, construction, environmental, electrical, communications and FAA requirements.

**Utility Notification:** No small-wind energy system shall be installed until evidence has been given that the utility company has been informed of the customer's intent to install an interconnected customer-owned generator. Off-grid systems shall be exempt from this requirement.

**Temporary Meteorological Towers (Met Towers):** Met towers shall be permitted under the same standards as a small-wind energy system, except that the requirements apply to a temporary structure. A permit for a temporary met tower shall be valid for a maximum of three (3) years, after which an extension may be granted. Wind monitoring shall be permitted in all applicable

zoning districts subject to issuance of a building permit for a temporary structure and subject to reasonable regulations concerning the bulk and height of structures and determining yard-size, lot area, setbacks, open space and building coverage requirements.

**3.21.6 Enforcement / Noncompliance**

It is unlawful for any person to construct, install, or operate a small-wind energy system that is not in compliance with this bylaw or with any condition contained in a building permit issued pursuant to this bylaw. Small-wind energy systems installed prior to the adoption of this bylaw are exempt.

This bylaw shall be administered and enforced by the Building Inspector. The Building Inspector may enter any property for which a building permit has been issued under this bylaw to conduct an inspection to determine whether the conditions stated in the permit have been met. Any person who fails to comply with any provision of this bylaw or a building permit issued pursuant to this bylaw shall be subject to enforcement and penalties as allowed by applicable law.

**3.21.7 Severability**

The provisions of this bylaw are severable; if any section, subdivision, paragraph of other part of this bylaw is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the bylaw shall not be affected thereby.

**Required 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s vote. The vote was 95 yes and 0 no on May 4, 2009.**

**Article 29** On the Motion of Robert Parks, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend the Athol Zoning Bylaws Article II, Section 2.3, Use Regulation Schedule, by adding the following use under the category of OTHER USES, the sub-category of Small-Wind Energy Systems as printed in the warrant and written below:

2.3 Use Regulation Schedule

Small-Wind Energy Systems

*Required 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s vote. The vote was 95 yes and 0 no on May 4, 2009.*

**Article 30** On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town amend the Athol

Zoning Bylaws Article II, Section 2.3, Use Regulation Schedule by adding footnote 7:

<sup>7</sup> In the Central Commercial District, roof-mounted, building-integrated or building-mounted vertical-axis wind turbine systems are permitted; stand-alone, tower-mounted systems are not permitted in this zone.

*Required 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s vote. The vote was 98 yes and 1 no on May 4, 2009.*

**Article 32** On the Motion of Brian Dodge, it was **VOTED:** That the Town accept and expend funds available from the State for Highway reimbursement programs, such as the Chapter 90 program. *Passed by a majority vote on May 4, 2009.*

**Article 34** On the Motion of Cynthia Hahn, it was **VOTED:** That the Town raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds or borrowing a sum of money as may be needed for all and any of the purposes mentioned on the forgoing articles that were voted and passed, provisions for which have not been made. *Passed by a majority vote on May 4, 2009.*

On the Motion of Brian Dodge, it was **VOTED:** That the Town adjourn the Annual Town Meeting until June 8, 2009 at

7:00 p.m. *Passed by a majority vote on May 4, 2009.*

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

A True Copy, Attest:

Nancy E. Burnham  
Town Clerk

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
ADJOURNED TO JUNE 8, 2009  
MINUTES**

The 2009 Annual Town Meeting was adjourned to June 8, 2009 in Memorial Hall. Voters entering the meeting were checked in on the list of registered voters and there were present when the Moderator called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m. The number of voters checked as being present was as follows: Precinct 1, 76; Precinct 2, 55; and Precinct 3, 36. Total present: 167.

Town Clerk, Nancy Burnham, read the adjourned notice of Annual Town Meeting \$10,847,670 to fund the fiscal year 2010 budget to be funded as follows \$10,791,432 from taxation; transfer \$5,738 from free cash; transfer \$500 from cemetery lot sales; transfer \$15,000 from the parking meter receipt account; transfer \$35,000 from the Cemetery Trust Fund, as detailed below.

as printed in the Athol Daily News on May 7, 2009.

The Moderator called for a moment of silence for the following:

**Robert L. Gray** – He worked for the United States Postal Service in Athol and was appointed Postmaster in September 1981. He retired in January 1986 after 40 years of service. He was a member of the Conservation Commission from 1965-1982; a member and chairman of the Finance Committee; Athol's representative on the State Scenic River Program; a Town Meeting representative; and an election worker.

The following were appointed Tellers for the Adjourned Session of Town Meeting by the Moderator and sworn in by the Town Clerk: Ben Feldman, Saverio Kaczmarczyk, and Robert Brighenti.

**Article 7** On the Motion of Brian Dodge, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate

Division/Department	FY08	FY09	FY10
<b>Finance</b>			
Accountant	110,884	115,604	105,521
Assessor	100,781	104,074	101,532
FWAC	152,184	152,184	126,450
Capital Planning Committee	1,270	1,270	1,270
Town Collector	113,345	126,644	117,763
Treasurer	2,422,120	2,709,160	2,755,952
Subtotal	<b>2,900,584</b>	<b>3,208,936</b>	<b>3,208,488</b>
<b>Public Safety</b>			
Animal Control	43,319	41,832	41,019
Building Inspector	98,460	102,991	93,461

Fire Department	1,220,785	1,377,851	1,440,400
Health Department	110,265	113,793	104,954
Police department	1,547,223	1,569,480	1,442,917
Sealer of Weights and Measures	7,810	7,810	7,775
Wire Inspector	19,782	22,296	21,352
Subtotal	<b>3,047,644</b>	<b>3,236,053</b>	<b>3,151,878</b>

#### **Public Services**

Board of Selectmen	477,638	501,730	389,919
Council on Aging	51,276	110,204	113,842
Conservation Commission	18,206	17,556	13,800
Contributory Retirement	981,727	1,112,267	1,161,163
Elections & Registration	21,194	24,294	15,894
Library	386,258	423,598	387,117
Parking	9,848	9,848	8,348
Personnel Board	350	350	350
Planning Board	990	1,515	1,750
Planning /CDBG	132,781	180,162	174,138
Profesional Services	232,305	244,805	239,532
Recreation	45,584	55,500	50,175
Beaches	32,975	33,375	21,800
Teen Task Force	0	0	0
Town Buildings	139,838	144,724	119,928
Town Clerk	104,232	122,976	103,481
Town Manager	86,493	138,789	116,365
Veterans	157,070	181,291	206,035
Zoning Board of Appeals	3,230	4,130	4,055
Subtotal	<b>2,881,995</b>	<b>3,307,114</b>	<b>3,127,691</b>

<b>Public Works</b>	1,183,504	1,279,699	1,359,613
---------------------	-----------	-----------	-----------

<b>Article 7 total</b>	<b>10,013,727</b>	<b>11,031,802</b>	<b>10,847,670</b>
------------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------

*The vote was 79 yes and 60 no. Passed by a majority vote on June 8, 2009.*

**Article 8** On the Motion of Robert Parks, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate \$374,343 to fund the fiscal year 2010 Capital Improvement Plan budget to be funded as follows; \$184,668 from free cash; \$33,944 from police trust funds and \$155,731 from capital land sales; as written in the warrant and provided below:

<b>Department</b>	<b>Item/Project</b>	<b>Request FY10</b>	<b>CPC Recom FY10</b>	<b>Transfer</b>
<b>Assessing</b>	Revaluation	25,143		
	3 Yr Reval			

		30,000		
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>55,143</b>	<b>55,143</b>	
<b>Town Hall</b>	Window Replacement	50,000	-	
<b>Fire - vehicles</b>	Pumper	266,500	<b>75,000</b>	
<b>Fire - vehicles</b>	Command Vehicle	18,700	<b>18,700</b>	
<b>Fire - vehicles</b>	Bucket Truck	30,000	-	
<b>Fire - projects</b>		-		
<b>Fire - equipment</b>	Infrared Cameras	15,000	<b>7,500</b>	
<b>Fire - equipment</b>	Accountability System	15,000	-	
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>345,200</b>		
<b>DPW - Vehicles</b>	Leases, Repairs, Replacement	61,000	<b>61,000</b>	
<b>DPW - Buildings</b>	Repairs	35,000	<b>0</b>	
<b>DPW - Projects</b>	Non- Chapter 90	50,000	<b>50,000</b>	
	Grant Project match	50,000	<b>50,000</b>	
	Water System improvements	28,000	<b>28,000</b>	Enterprise
	Sewer System improvements	111,000	<b>61,000</b>	Enterprise
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>335,000</b>		
<b>Library</b>	Heating System Improvements	10,688	-	
	Air Conditioning Improvements	8,875	-	
	Roof	6,565	-	
	Building / Brick & Concrete Work	10,000	-	



	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>36,128</b>		
<b>Police - Vehicles</b>	Cruisers	52,000	<b>52,000</b>	
<b>Police - Equipment</b>		-		
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>52,000</b>		
<b>ARRSD</b>				
<b>Buildings</b>	High School Roof	50,000		
<b>Equipment</b>	Outdoor Bleachers	62,000		
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>112,000</b>		
<b>CIP Reserve</b>		10,000	<b>5,000</b>	
	<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>995,471</b>	<b>463,343</b>	
<b>Enterprise Transfers</b>		<b>139,000</b>	<b>89,000</b>	
	<b>Total CPC Budget</b>	<b>856,471</b>	<b>374,343</b>	

*Passed by a majority vote on June 8, 2009.*

**Article 9**      *On the Motion of Gary Deyo, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate \$3,105,228 from taxation to fund the Athol-Royalston Regional School District fiscal year 2010 budget as follows: \$2,872,973 for operating expenses and \$232,255 to repay Middle School debt. Passed by a majority vote on June 8, 2009.*

*Article 10      On the Motion of Erik Euvrard, it was VOTED: That the Town appropriate \$249,987 from taxation to fund the fiscal year 2010 Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District. Passed by a majority vote on June 8, 2009.*

**Article 12**      On the Motion of Pamela Caranfa, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate \$1,116,313 to be funded as printed below and to be funded as follows: \$1,111,103 from user fees, and \$5,210 from Retained Earnings to operate the Fiscal Year 2010 Department of Public Works/Water Division Enterprise fund:

**Water Revenues**  
revenue                      \$1,058,750

fees	\$42,353
interest	\$10,000
service	\$0
sewer rate relief	
Special revenue	
Town Revenue	\$0
Reserve for capital	\$5,210
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$1,116,313</b>

**Water Expenses**

health insurance	\$48,150
expenses	\$743,087
debt	\$198,138

	\$0
overhead	\$98,938
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,088,313</b>
Capital	28,000
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$1,116,313</b>

*Passed by a majority vote on June 8, 2009.*

**Article 13** On the Motion of Cynthia Hahn Caldwell, it was **VOTED:** That the Town appropriate \$1,332,353 to be funded as printed below and to be funded as follows: \$1,189,000 from user fees, \$70,114 from Retained Earnings, \$8,500 from interest, \$50,000 from reserve sewer loan, and \$14,739 from sewer rate relief to operate the Fiscal Year 2010 Department of Public Works/Sewer Division Enterprise fund:

**Sewer Revenues**

revenue	\$1,179,000
fees	\$10,000
interest	\$8,500
reserve sewer loan	\$50,000
sewer rate relief	\$14,739
Special revenue	\$0
Town Revenue	
R/E	\$70,114
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$1,332,353</b>

**Sewer Expenses**

health insurance	\$32,104
expenses	\$769,440
debt	\$354,232

capital	\$61,000
Revolving loan	\$0

overhead	\$115,578
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$1,332,353</b>

*Passed by a majority vote on June 8, 2009.*

**Article 14** I move that the Town appropriate \$572,402 to be funded as printed below and to be funded from \$538,205 user fees and \$34,197 retained earnings to operate the Fiscal Year 2010 Department of Public Works/Transfer Station Division Enterprise fund:

<b>Transfer Revenues</b>	
Sticker Sales	\$27,225
Bag Sales	\$60,750
Bulk Solid Waste	\$379,625
Demolition	\$42,000
Large items/Appliances	\$20,415
Paper	\$8,190
R/E	\$34,197
R/E capital	
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$572,402</b>

<b>Transfer Expenses</b>	
health insurance	\$14,000
expenses	\$459,466
debt	\$46,900
capital	\$0
Revolving loan	\$0
overhead	\$52,037
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$572,402</b>

**Passed by a majority vote on June 8, 2009.**

**Article 16** **No Motion. No Action** taken on "To see if the Town will vote to suspend or reduce the contribution of ten percent (10%) of ambulance revenue to Receipts Reserved for Ambulance Appropriation for fiscal year 2010, with all receipts being allocated to the General Fund; or act in relation thereto."

**Article 17**

On the Motion of Timothy Anderson as amended by David Ames, it was **VOTED:** That the Town vote to appropriate \$85.00 from available funds or taxation in FY 2009 for a prior year medical bill for a police officer injured in the line of duty. *The vote was 122 yes and 7 no. Passed by a majority vote on June 8, 2009.*

**Article 21**

**No Motion. No Action** taken on "To see if the Town will

vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds or by borrowing a sum of money, or by borrowing a sum of money exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, in order to: acquire new or used emergency standby generators, transfer switches, fuel tanks and installation for the Town Hall and/or Middle School and/or one mobile/trailer mounted emergency standby generator, and any incidental costs related thereto; *or act in relation thereto.*”

### Article 31

On the Motion of Robert Parks, it was **VOTED:** That the Town vote to amend Athol Zoning Bylaws Article II Sec. 2.1.3. by deleting the following language as printed in the warrant and written below:

Said districts are located and bounded as shown on a map entitled "Zoning Map" dated May, 1983 on file in the office of the Town Clerk. The Zoning Map, will all explanatory matter thereon, and only amendments thereto, is hereby made a part of this By-Law

and replacing it with the following:

Said districts are located and bounded as shown on a map entitled "Zoning Map" dated Oct. 1, 2008 on file in the office of the Town Clerk. The Zoning Map, will all explanatory matter thereon, and only amendments thereto,

is hereby made a part of this By-Law.

*Required 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s vote. The vote was 113 yes and 1 no on June 8, 2009.*

**Article 33 No Motion. No Action taken on “To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash a sum of money to the stabilization account; or act in relation thereto. “**

Meeting dissolved at 8:25 p.m. on June 8, 2009.

A True Copy, Attest:

Nancy E. Burnham  
Town Clerk

---

### ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

**TO THE SELECTMEN & THE CITIZENS OF THE TOWNS OF ATHOL AND ROYALSTON;**

**The Athol-Royalston Regional School District presents this report to the citizens of Athol and Royalston.**



## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

ARRSD technically remains under the auspices and supervision of the Massachusetts Department of Revenue's, Financial Advisory Board (FAB), which was appointed by Governor Romney in 2006. However, the FAB voted to end its day-to-day financial supervision of the District in June of 2009. The District is required to make periodic reports to the FAB on financial matters, and must report any major change in the financial state of the District as soon as it occurs. Mr. Frederick Kingsley of the Massachusetts Department of Revenue is the official liaison with the District. Over the past years, the Board has worked collaboratively and effectively with the Superintendent of Schools and the School Committee to stabilize the financial condition of the District. Still, while financially stable, the District continues to operate in a financial bind. Over the last three years and even more so in FY11, ARRSD has had to pick up an ever increasing amount of the financial burden to fund the schools. This has been done by using funds generated by financial reimbursements, and by using the few competitive grants that are allowed to supplant District monies. This self-funding has allowed the District to continue to provide adequate services to its students from year to year, while not taxing the financial resources of the Towns. The State pays for approximately 87% of the cost of educating our students. Because of a massive cut in State aid via Chapter 70 (\$720,000) in FY11, the District will self-fund at 6%. Prior to five years ago, the District never self-funded any portion of the budget. The Towns' proportion of the budget funding has shrunk perilously low to 7%. With the depletion of its resources to self-fund the FY11 budget, the District will no longer be able to self-fund in the immediate future. The Towns will have to step up to find resources for the

District so that its academic quality and integrity can continue to flourish. During

FY11, the District will have to renegotiate new contracts with the Athol Teachers' Association and its four affiliated sub-units. In addition, our transportation contract will expire in June of 2010 and thus needs to be renegotiated.

## **FACILITIES**

Over the last three years, the District has spent over \$1 million to repair and renovate its school buildings. A large portion of that money continues to be spent on Athol High School in order to maintain its accreditation. The Athol elementary school buildings (with the exception of the Pleasant Street School) are in poor condition. Presently, the District is attempting to fund a Feasibility Study to determine solutions to its elementary building concerns. It is unlikely that it will be economically feasible to repair or renovate the elementary schools. The District has repaired its main driveway/road to the Middle School, and done roof repairs at the High School and Pleasant Street School. The District replaced its High School gymnasium bleachers, and it was forced to replace the press box and bleachers on the football field due to its inaccessibility to the physically-challenged. To maintain its accreditation that will take place in 2012, the High School will have to repair/renovate its physical education and athletic locker rooms. The estimate for this is approximately to \$1 million. ARRSD cannot fund this.

## **STUDENT BODY**

Beginning as early as 2003, ARRSD began to see a large number of families "choice out" of the District. The number of families who have opted for school choice has declined and now stabilized. We have seen our "choice in" numbers increase and then stabilize as well. The District presently loses \$1.6 million in Chapter 70 school aid each year to fund school choice. Surveys in 2006 indicated that families left ARRSD because of academic quality, financial instability and

the poor condition of school buildings. We have dramatically improved our academic quality and financial state in the last five years. Then again, we still struggle with the condition of the elementary school buildings in Athol. In October of 2009 the District enrollment was 1682. The enrollment has dropped because of school choice and a rapidly declining birth rate in the Towns. In a couple of years, not counting school choice, the District enrollment will stabilize in the mid-1500's. Approximately 90% of the students reside in Athol, with the remaining 10% from Royalston. In June 2009, the high school graduated 85 seniors. Approximately 85% of the graduates planned to continue their education at the post-secondary level. Over \$100,000 in scholarships and three times that in grants in aid were awarded to the Class of 2009.



### **STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (MCAS/AYP)**

The District continues to maintain MCAS scores which keep it in “good standing” with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). The High School continues to rate “very high” in both Mathematics and English Language Arts. The Middle School scores for most students are in the “good standing” category but special education students are having

difficulty in achieving the same status. Mathematics is an area that needs improvement with all students in Grades 7 & 8. The Elementary Schools are in “good standing” except for Riverbend which is targeted for improvement in Math. A strong effort by our students and the resilient effort of our administrators, teachers and support staff have maintained the “good standing” status of the District.

### **FACULTY AND STAFF**

Because of ARRSD self-funding its budget, the faculty and staff positions have seen no cuts since 2007. However in FY11, the possibility exists for 9 teachers and 3 paraprofessionals to be laid off. Class sizes have risen and are projected to continue to do so because of budget constraints. The School Committee has voted to keep class sizes no higher than 29 as long as it remains financially possible. Even with the increases in class size, our teachers and support staff continue their strong efforts on behalf of their students. Last year and continuing this year, the teachers and staff underwent another year of extensive professional development and training, on full and half-days. Although many topics are covered during the year, our major District goal continues to be to improve our curriculum and to teach reading, writing and Math more effectively to students of all ability levels.

### **COORDINATED PROGRAM REVIEW (CPR)**

The CPR reviews the Districts operational procedures in working with students and parents in the schools and Central Office, its Special Education compliance to State law, and how it services its students with a limited proficiency in the English language. Over the years the District has made steady progress improving its CPR, especially in the area with regard to students whose first language is not English. At the present time the District has only a few minor issues to

resolve. ARRSD will undergo another CPR in the fall of 2010.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN**

During February, the District updated the community on its Strategic Action Plan. The Plan was developed by teachers, administrators, parents, students, town officials and citizens of Athol and Royalston in 2008. In general most of goals in the areas of Teaching and Learning, Finance, Facilities, and District Climate and Communications have been met. The areas that need the most work are Community Partnerships, Public Relations and Parental Involvement. The School Committee has formed a permanent Public Relations Subcommittee, and the Superintendent has formed a Superintendent's Advisory Council to begin to work on plans for improvement. The Strategic Plan is the best way to bring to life the mission, vision, and guiding principles that direct our work on behalf of children.

## **SPECIAL NEEDS SERVICES**

This past year the District serviced over two hundred special needs students. Our District has one of the highest percentages of special needs populations in the State. The Town of Athol has one of the higher rates of foster student placements in Massachusetts and almost all of those students require special services. Additionally, the District maintains the Tully Lake Alternative Educational Program at the Ellen Bigelow School. This Program provides full day instruction to special needs students at a far lower cost than if those students were tuitioned into similar programs outside of our District. Next year the District is taking over the Program (now called the Miller's River Academy) from an educational contractor that has run it for the last ten years. We feel that having ARRSD take over and run the Alternative Program will improve the quality of the education.

This past year, the Special Education department underwent a detailed evaluation to determine the effectiveness of its implementation of services to the students. There were a number of recommendations that were made for improvement that will be taking place next year. One of them was the shifting of Tully Lake from an outside agency to the District. The Special Education Department has the difficult task of meeting the challenging needs of our special education population while at the same time trying to financially stay within our budgetary requirements.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

The District continues to improve the quantity and quality of technology at its schools. Right now we are working on a technology plan that replaces our hardware every five years. Our major effort to address our District's inadequate administrative operational system with the X2 Software System has been very successful. We now have a far greater ability to create, input and manage the data that is critical to running the District.

## **PUBLIC AND PRIVATE GRANTS**

ARRSD continues to pursue grant funding for entitlement and competitive grants—both public and private. These grants can lower the cost of the District's operational budget and thus lower the cost of the foundation budget which is used to sets the Town's minimum contribution. A new grant was received by the District this past winter to upgrade the size and quality of its Advanced Placement (AP) Program at the High School. Not only is this program upgrading the ability of our teachers to improve our AP courses, it also supports teachers in non-AP courses from grade 6 through grade 10. This prestigious grant will provide about \$175,000 over two years to the District. We continue to receive a number of small private grants for student tutoring, school renovations and

kindergarten programming. In fiscal 2010, the total amount of all private and public grants was well over one million dollars.

## FINAL THOUGHTS

The School Committee, administration, students and staff extend their thanks to the Towns of Athol and Royalston for their continued support. The District continues to move forward and make great strides to improve our programming and assistance to the students and their families. We will continue to commit ourselves to becoming one of the best school districts in Central Massachusetts. It is our distinct pleasure to be of service to the residents of Athol and Royalston.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Karen McNiff, Chair, ARRS  
Committee*

*Anthony T. Polito, Superintendent of  
Schools*

*School Committee Members*

*Roberta Newman*

*Chet Hall III*

*Nancy Melbourne*

*Deborah Kuzmeskas*

*Steven Kaczmarczyk*

*William Caldwell*

*Joseph Maga*

*Wayne Whitfield*

*Dale Lougee*

## ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SALARIES PAID DURING FISCAL YEAR JUNE 30, 2009

EMPLOYEE	GROSS WAGES	EMPLOYEE	GROSS WAGES
ADAMS, PATRICIA A	11,941.29	BYRNE-BEGIN, KATHERINE T	65,522.00
ALLEN, EILEEN R	64,972.16	BYRNES, PATRICIA A	91,000.00
ALLEN, TERESA M	17,702.67	CAISSE, JOANNE F	2,113.20
AMES, JENNIFER L	13,871.09	CALVI, MYRA J	64,778.32
ANDERSON, BARBARA L	45,338.09	CAMPOS, ASHLEY M	329.51
ANDERSON, KURT M	32,106.72	CANON, RACHEL A	3,249.19
ARCHAMBEAULT, WHITNEY S	53,687.21	CAREY, DOUGLAS W	636.02
ARPIDE, JENNIFER L	34,927.07	CAREY, THERESA K	13,123.29
BACIGALUPO, BONNIE L	17,499.83	CARLSON, LEAH M	61,276.09
BAILEY, CHRISTINE M	11,120.00	CARNIE, MARY C	66,637.66
BAPTISTA, DIANA S	4,221.82	CASELLA, MARY K	16,510.03
BARBOZA, LAURA L	12,673.86	CASELLA, ROBERTA L	64,408.00
BARRUS, SHIRLEY M	10,571.56	CASS, ALYSSA M	539.99
BATCHELOR, STEVEN R	32,851.35	CASTONGUAY, MARCIA A	20,594.71
BATES, SHELLEY A	31,102.34	CETTO, HOLLY A	46,749.25
BAUM, JOY J	240.00	CHAMBERLAIN, MICHAEL D	682.70
BEDARD, STEPHANIE M	449.51	CHAMBERLAIN, RACHAEL M	9,179.17
BEDINGER, LINDA S	8,807.21	CHAPALONIS, DANIELLE C	3,695.00
BEDNARZ, JEREMY J	180.00	CHAPLIN, VALERIE R	25,814.80
BELLABARBA, STACEY A	3,813.23	CHASE, ELLEN M	22,832.04
BENJAMIN, ALBERT E	2,500.00	CHAUVETTE, SHARON A	19,376.40
BENJAMIN, BONNIE B	69,639.00	CHEVALIER, PAMELA J	60,927.34



BERGERON, DEBRA M	58,236.24	CHIASSON, SCOTT A	36,133.55
BERGQUIST DARLING, LORI S	966.96	CHIASSON, WILLIAM B	93,671.00
BERRY, JILL E	8,400.00	CLEGG, CAROL	23,195.62
BERTHIAUME, LYNN A	7,022.55	CLEGG, KERRY M	359.02
BERTRAND, LAUREEN G	64,981.06	CLEVELAND, TIMOTHY L	2,010.00
BEVIS, DANIEL R	2,354.00	COBURN, DIANE M	1,939.74
BEZIO, JOYCE I	13,749.27	COBURN, JENNIFER C	3,020.02
BILLINGHAM, DIANE L	43,142.16	COOLEY, ANGELA M	62,001.49
BILLINGHAM, GEOFFREY J	360.00	COOLEY, RICHARD D JR	1,000.00
BISHOP, RHONDA	19,453.45	CUNNINGHAM, MICHELE	35,000.00
BODINE, BONNIE J	59,414.49	CUTTER, JOY C	58,052.78
BOGEL, ALEXANDER D	51,668.92	DAHLQUIST, MARILYN J	80,522.81
BOSWORTH, WENDY L	1,488.96	DALY, JEREMIAH J	62,906.34
BOUDREAU, SAMANTHA A	36,651.78	DAMON, JACQUELINE	239.28
BOUTELL, DONNA	18,307.40	DARCY, THOMAS A	33,937.00
BRADY, DENNIS M	66,793.98	DAVIDSON, EDWARD P	70,405.00
BRIDGWOOD, BARBARA A	1,028.56	DAWSON, CHRISTOPHER A	63,298.07
BRIGGS, DONNA M	23,838.17	DAWSON, DAWN D	55.08
BRIGGS, JILL P	61,183.00	DEACON, JOANN G	68,163.66
BRIGHENTI, MARY J	35,236.94	DEASY, MICHAEL J	65,078.32
BROUILLET, ERICA S	78,000.00	DEJACKOME, ANN MARIE	3,849.34
BRUSO, SANDRA M	1,325.00	DELEO, JAMES S	69,728.00
BULGER, CHERILYN A	40,573.63	DEVAULT, BUNI B	18,421.97
BURKE, KATHLEEN M	22,029.20	DEVAULT, VICTORIA L	60.00
BUSH, JENNIFER L	44,553.57	DEVENEAU, ANGELA J	15,988.45
BUTLAND, BRENDA A	38,942.50	DICKSON, ROBERT	60,533.00
BUTLER, SARAH J	180.00	DION , ANGELA R	239.01
DIVOLL, REBECCA J	8,780.84	GOLDTHWAITE, DARLENE E	65,360.40
DODGE, ALAN D	7,671.00	GORDON, SHAYNE V	3,887.00
DODGE, PATTI A	2,527.30	GOSPODAREK, ELIZABETH A	150.00
DOTY, JOHN G	92,146.00	GOUPIL, JANICE M	18,603.08
DREW, CYNTHIA L	62,665.21	GRANT, EUGENIA	4,060.69
DROLETTE, JOSEPH F	118,930.00	GREEN, DOROTHY C	61,062.00
DROUIN, CINDY E	63,026.76	GRENIER, SARA M	570.00
DUAN, XIAOXUAN	3,780.00	GRIFFITH, KATHERINE M	17,276.96
DUGAS, DIANNA E	74,098.58	GROSKY, MITCHELL R	7,060.00
DUPLESSIS, SCOTT A	39,547.21	GRUTCHFIELD, MARY	SCHISSEL
EASTMAN, DEBRA A	65,490.83	GUERIN, BRUCE J	62,014.93
EASTMAN, MILES R	681.41	HAGER, CYNTHIA C	3,620.00
EGAN MD, RONALD D	5,462.00	HAGER, GREGORY J	23,692.38
ELIASZ, CHRISTINE L	55,103.18	HAGIE, ANNETTE M	1,633.98
ELLIS, LINDA E	27,147.79	HAGIE, ANNETTE M	3,370.00
ELLIS, LISA M	15,083.70	HAINS, FRANK E	55,852.17
ERICKSON, PATRICIA	36,686.16	HAINS, JOCELYN M	6,117.59
ERVIN, ELIZABETH N	78,000.00	HALL, SHEILA D	40,387.65
EUVRARD, SHARON L	39,579.00	HAMMONDS, MARALYN A	2,575.00
FAHLBECK, JANET A	657.51	HANDY, MARIE JANE	75,094.64
		HARRIS, LINDA	77,280.50

FARLEY, PATTI L	6,480.06	HAYDOCY, TERRI-LYNNE	24,652.26
FERRARI, GENE A	316.50	HAZEN, MELISSA S	180.00
FESTA, GEORGE J	44,454.11	HELANDER, DIANNE M	120.00
FISH, KEN M	42,721.10	HERK, TIMOTHY M	2,309.51
FITZMAURICE, KELLY A	16,364.48	HEUER, HEIDI S	57,221.03
FLAGG, APRIL L	8,202.26	HOPKINS, BRENDA J	16,407.65
FLEMATTI, SHANNON L	5,364.00	HORRIGAN, KATHLEEN E	62,496.84
FLEMING, KATHLEEN C	62,121.00	HOWE, SALLY	65,816.49
FLOYD, KIMBERLY P	2,730.78	HUDACEK, JESSICA A	393.92
FOLMSBEE, MICHELE J	4,864.23	HUGHES, CYNTHIA A	35,744.58
FOSTER, THERESA L	21,695.52	HUGHES, MARGERY E	65,363.66
FRANCK, BARBARA	53,656.56	HUME, JAIME D	24,354.00
FRASER, RACHELLE	2,600.00	HUNTER, SCOTT A	68,554.39
FREDETTE, LEE A	2,314.51	HUTCHINSON, RONALD K	39,864.37
FRENCH, BOBBIE	83,689.92	HYMAN, SCOTT R	120.00
FRENCH, JEREMY J	89.51	JAMES, CHRISTOPHER W	120.00
GABRENAS, JOYCE	29,629.08	JASKOVIK, LINDA L	56,841.57
GAGNE, LINDA S	21,283.42	JEFFERY, BRANDON J	1,337.00
GAIGNARD, GENEVIEVE R	419.01	JELLEY, CHERYL A	53,622.96
GAMBILL, TRACY L	1,670.00	JOHNSON, JULIE A	26,420.95
GANNON, JUSTINE A	36,196.27	JOLLY, TREFFLE J	7,140.00
GAUVIN, MATTHEW	58,352.51	JOWDER, BRIDGET A	4,242.50
GIANSANTO, DEBRA A	1,107.08	KANE, PAUL J	2,010.00
GILL, BRIAN C	62,016.08	KARTONO, SANDRA L	67,253.34
GIROUARD, ERIN J	43,536.61	KESSLER, GREGORY A	765.24
GIROUARD, HEIDI E	24,263.08	KILLAY, KRISTEN E	5,227.30
GLADDEN, COLLEEN R	19,385.52	KIMBALL, RICHARD E JR	38,509.03
GODIN, DEBBIE J	42,100.00	KING, CONSTANCE L	64,455.56
KING, DAVID P	73,884.00	MCGUIRK, BETTY J	8,133.07
KING, DENISE M	6,277.32	MCINTOSH, JESSICA M	540.00
KING, HENRY M	2,935.60	MCLAREN, BARBARA J	63,233.00
KING, SARAH S		MCLAUGHLIN, MARYELLEN	
	60,241.22	A	57,533.00
KNETCHEL, SALLI A	45,871.06	MELANSON, DEANNA M	856.23
KOULISIS, CATHERINE	16,258.11	MERRON, BERNADETTE H	65,047.96
KRAEMER, JOAN I	622.62	MERRON, KYLE M	1,753.77
KULISANSKI, BRENDA L	11,066.63	MERWIN, LINDA M	23,222.24
KUNIHOLM, JEFFREY R	239.28	METEVIER, KATHLEEN N	9,607.48
LABOMBARDE, PATRICIA A	76,137.00	MILES, JUDITH E	56,521.66
LAGIMONIERE, BRYAN J	15,411.70	MILLER, GREGORY	89.51
LAJOIE, DONNA R	56,538.00	MILLER, JUDITH L	67,242.96
LAJOIE, GERALD F	975.92	MILLER, MARY ANN	63,153.67
LAJOIE, MARIE A	29,798.72	MINER, LUCAS R	285.92
LAMOTHE, LORENE B	45,179.00	MINTY, BENJAMIN W	300.00
LAROCHE, JENNIFER	46,746.09	MIRANDA, CHRISTINE A	60,665.21
LAROSE, WILLIAM P	69,491.47	MIRANDA, DOMINIC C	78,295.06
LARUE, LEE ANN	467.70	MITCHELL, GLENN D	8,427.16
LASHUA, ALFRED J	933.60	MOORE, MARY L	62,540.60

LATOUR, JANET P	1,500.00	MORRIS, CLAIRE A	19,875.23
LAWRENCE, ROSE I	29,615.90	MOSHER, HILLARY A	235.08
LAWTON, MARLENE A	46,871.70	MUZZY, MELISSA A	26,983.49
LEANDER, MICHAEL S	62,259.05	NEALE, CHERILYN A	3,226.38
LEBLANC, DIAN M	6,277.78	NEEDLE, JOSEPH G	2,010.00
LEEMAN, SUSAN A	63,883.00	NELSON, KEVIN M	83,758.97
LEWANDOWSKI-HARDING, TINA M	64,649.00	NEVERETT, SAMANTHA R	60.00
LHEUREUX, MARY	2,354.00	NEWTON, BONNEY J	23,766.87
LINNUS, JOHN A	1,249.18	NEWTON, BRIANA J	60.00
LITCHFIELD, MARIANNE	64,891.92	OLSEN, JEANNE M	9,761.81
LITCHFIELD, NANCY L	36,686.16	OTTO, KAREN S	54,297.61
LITTLEWOOD, MICHAEL J	60.00	PARKER, CHERYL A	23,537.54
LOUGEE, GEORGIANNA C	49,439.96	PARKER, TERRY L	1,293.44
LUCAS, SHAWN M	36,467.76	PARKS, ROBERT R	60.00
LYESIUK, CATHERINE A	19,928.79	PARSONS, EUNICE L	806.13
MAGAZU, AIMEE	68,168.62	PARTRIDGE, JEAN S	2,040.00
MAGEE, ROSEMARY	69,222.00	PATRIQUIN, LAUREE A	15,805.29
MAGNINO, JOHN D	869.77	PATTERSON, ELLY T	54,356.00
MAILLET, VICKI M	120.00	PEREZ, MELISSA J	71,706.88
MANN, THERESA L	18,793.01	PHILLIPS, JESSICA M	149.51
MANSON, COREY J	60.00	PIEROPAN DETHIER, MARIA D	68,143.71
MARTIN, SUZANNE L	23,036.33	PIRAGIS, DEBORAH M	60,754.74
MARYNOK, JULIE M	50,500.00	PISCITELLO, ALECIA M	51,822.98
MATTHEWS, FORREST D	240.00	PISTORINO, JULIE	69,036.31
MAYNARD, SALLY A	3,162.50	PISTORINO, KATHRYN R	89.51
MCBRIDE, TAMMY	16,644.16	PLOTKIN, CORLENA M	61,523.96
MCCAFFREY, DAVID F	71,253.32	POLITO, ANTHONY T	135,000.00
MCDONALD, SHARON S	52,591.00	POLLARD, JUDITH M	18,886.40
MCGRATH, PAMELA J	19,806.99	PORTER, BRENDA J	13,310.55
POTTINGER, PAULA J	2,071.92	SEYMOUR, HEATHER R	680.00
PRATT, JANET A	12,831.41	SHERIDAN, DENIELLE K	1,337.00
PROGEN, SHAWN T	34,746.89	SHERIDAN, ROBERT L II	25,159.60
PROVENCHER, KATHLEEN	15,924.73	SILLS, SUSAN L	43,790.96
PROVOST, LOIS C	64,921.22	SIMKEWICZ, LAUREN J	58,738.03
QUALTERS, RYANNE M	615.24	SMITH, CHERYL J	8,166.83
QUINLAN, KELSEY L	82.62	SNELL, BRIAN E	49,414.42
QUINTON, JOSEPH P	69,775.29	SOFTIC, ADRIAN B	2,919.00
QUINTON, SALLY A	60,662.70	SONN, CONSTANCE J	64,786.67
RANUCCI, CATHERINE H	4,906.75	SOUICIE, CATHERINE M	3,543.75
RATHBURN, MARK A	32,408.83	ST.CYR, AMY L	17,328.28
RAYMOND, CAROL	13,048.86	STAFFORD, LESLIE A	7,053.38
REARDON, ELAINE A	58,777.43	STARKEY, CHARLES D	37,460.76
REED, GRACE M	15,999.01	STEVE, KATHRYN A	70,162.50
REXROAD, KAREN	24,196.70	STIMSON, CYNTHIA C	59,339.66
REYNOLDS, LIANA C	2,032.02	STJEAN, DAVID D	64,367.74
RICHARDSON, JANET R	63,962.65	STJEAN, EILEEN M	66,384.75

RICKS, JAMES M	300.00	STONE, CHARLES R JR	85,374.64
RIOUX, MIA J	1,558.28	STONE, SALLY A	68,122.00
RITCHEY, GAIL FORD	65,734.50	STOPEN, LYNNE E	64,578.32
RIX, DENISE M	21,415.68	STROM, RENEE A	1,359.45
ROBERTS, ALYSSA L	1,137.24	STRONG, KENT B	102,500.00
ROBERTS, ANN-MARIE	31,267.16	STRONG, MELISSA S	50,526.27
ROBERTSON, ANDREA C	60.00	SULLIVAN, CHRISTOPHER H	89,805.70
ROBERTSON, ROBERT E	3,307.00	SULLIVAN, ROSANNE W	73,412.00
ROBERTSON, ROBYN C	57,733.00	TADDEO, ANTHONY S	37,754.82
ROBERTSON, RUTH K	42,012.70	TALLEY, ANNE E	33,151.36
ROBICHAUD, SUSAN		TAMULEVICH, CHRISTOPHER	
	62,855.25	W	24,509.66
ROBIDEAU, RACHEL M	4,989.50	TANDY, AMY L	420.00
ROBINSON, LAURA L	53,924.00	TANDY, ROBYN M	180.00
ROBINSON, LINDA A	65,917.50	TANDY SONGER, SUSAN R	65,970.50
ROBUCCIO, CATHY A	65,933.00	TARBELL, LISA A	15,942.26
ROGERS, CAROL	30,195.90	TAYLOR, ALISHA M	388.79
ROGERS, KEVIN A	33,348.15	TAYLOR, ANN M	16,090.44
ROSS, DEBRA A	37,227.52	TELICKI, THOMAS D	60,168.38
ROSS, MALYNDA J	65,502.57	TENNEY, LISA A	60,889.63
ROULEAU, CHRISTINE M	7,234.62	THURBER, MIKAELA A	63,357.00
ROULEAU, ROBERT G	43,279.85	TOPOLSKI, HEATHER L	5,580.23
ROY, ANNE M	56,957.78	TRASK, JANICE M	20,513.51
RUSSELL, THERESA A	33,897.13	TRENGA, KAREN	2,369.28
RYLL, SKYLAR E	322.62	TRIOZZI, DAVID M	60,637.32
SAISA, PHILLIP E	3,817.00	TRIOZZI, JACQUELINE	57,320.49
SANDERSON, WILLIAM F	44,129.28	TRUEHART, CAITLYN M	854.15
SAWIN, JOY D	19,592.35	VAIDULAS, KENNETH A	36,000.00
SCHWAB REHORKA, RACHEL		VALERI, JENNY LYNN	
A	60,640.20		120.00
SCORTINO, RICHARD T	4,981.00	VALLEY, TINA M	329.51
SECO, DANIEL J	1,886.82	VEROCK, JESSICA M	44,108.04
SEPPALA, CARL W	37,929.76	VITELLO, MARIA L	16,719.74
VLAHAKIS, VASILIOS	240.00		
VOUTILA, CYNTHIA A	50,900.64		
WALLACE, SEAN A	36,852.00		
WASLASKE, HAZEL E	309.47		
WEBB, SHEILA M	41,327.54		
WEBSTER, JAY C	53,520.33		
WELLS, GREGORY P	9,397.03		
WESSEL, DOUGLAS C	44,390.22		
WESTON, JEFF	69,232.11		
WHITE, CHRISTY L	3,360.00		
WHITMAN, JENNIFER A	150.00		
WHITMORE, PETER D	52,242.08		
WILLIAMS, ANN F	60,491.44		
WILLIAMS, KAREN A	63,533.00		

WILLIAMS, KEITH W	65,202.96
WILLIAMS, STEWART A	31,011.64
WINTERS, SUSAN J	24,708.80
WOESSNER, MICHAEL D	63,972.35
WOLFE, JOSHUA M	30,865.87
WOLSKI, DANIEL C	525.24
WRIGHT, GAIL M	15,203.79
YOUNGHANS, RAYMOND M	120.00
ZIGULOSKI, DANIEL M	6,289.18
ZIGULOSKI, JAMIE L	15,867.21

---

## ***Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School***

### **Annual Report – 2009**

The Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District Committee presents this report to the citizens of the District. The Committee consists of twenty-two members – four from Fitchburg, represented by LeRoy Cark, Mark Louney, Robert Campbell and Brian Walker, two from Gardner, represented by Helen Lepkowski and Alice Anderson and one from each of the communities of Ashburnham – represented by Diane Swenson, Ashby – represented by Warren Landry, Athol – represented by Toni L. Phillips, Barre – represented by John Scott, Harvard – represented by Sue Tokay, Holden – represented by James Cournoyer, Hubbardston – represented by Jacqueline B. Kaminski, Lunenburg – represented by Mary C. Barclay, Sterling – represented by Dr. Kenneth I.H. Williams, Templeton – represented by James M. Gilbert, Westminster – represented by Jeff Schutt and Winchendon – represented by Burton E. Gould, Jr.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Numerous challenges were faced during the development of the fiscal year 2009-2010 budget, including significant cuts to Chapter 70 state aid and transportation aid, along with the continually rising costs of healthcare and an aging infrastructure and the need to update and modernize our technology and vocational/technical offerings.

Considerable effort was put forth by the School Committee, administration and staff to develop a cost-effective budget. The final fiscal year 2009-2010 Educational Plan totaled \$22,104,281.

The District was audited in August 2009 as part of the yearly financial audit by the accounting firm of Melanson, Heath & Company from Greenfield, MA and an “excellent” report is anticipated.

### **STUDENT BODY**

Monty Tech’s October 1, 2009 enrollment included 1,355 students in grades nine through twelve. Students are represented from every community in the district as follows: Ashburnham (46), Ashby (39), Athol (130), Barre (39), Fitchburg (391), Gardner (166), Harvard (4), Holden (47), Hubbardston (50), Lunenburg (64), Petersham (7), Phillipston (15), Princeton (17), Royalston (18), Sterling (50), Templeton (89), Westminster (54), and Winchendon (114).

The Guidance  
Department/Admissions Department received

784 applications for admission in September 2009. Of these, 706 were for the available ninth grade openings. Due to the retention rate of our upper classes, we were only able to admit 22 students to the tenth and eleventh grades.

Monty Tech continued to offer a variety of opportunities for students, parents and community members to learn about and visit the school. In October, 1,620 district eighth graders participated in our Tour Days. Students toured many of our twenty vocational/technical areas and learned about the challenging academic offerings and exciting athletic and extracurricular programs. Career Awareness Night offered interested students the opportunity to return at night, with their family members, to explore the facilities and talk with staff members. Career Awareness Night, as well as last spring's Open House, were attended by an estimated 1,000 individuals per event, comprised of students, parents, and community members from throughout the district.

The Vocational Interest Program (V.I.P.) continued to attract large numbers of seventh and eighth grade students during the 2008-2009 school year. Due to the high enrollment, a third five-week session was implemented. Participants had opportunities to attend hands-on after school sessions in a variety of vocational/technical areas. A satisfaction survey rated this program 4.8 out of 5. The 2008-2009 enrollment is the highest ever at 748 seventh and eighth graders. The survey also indicates that 719/748 students surveyed intend to, or have applied to Monty Tech.

In June of 2009, the class of 2009 graduated 293 seniors. These graduates received diplomas and technical certificates. Approximately 95% of the graduates planned to continue their education at the post-secondary level or employment, while

another 5% planned to enter military service.

The Scholarship Committee awarded approximately \$31,850 in scholarships to members of the Class of 2009. In addition, they awarded \$6,000 to the practical nursing graduates. Once again, local (Business Education Enrichment Foundation) and state organizations, as well generous individuals, continue to recognize the ability and potential of Monty Tech graduates in the form of generous donations. The School Committee, administration, faculty, and graduates themselves are grateful for this support.

The Articulation Agreements with local colleges continued to play an important role in helping our graduates enter college through credits earned at Monty Tech. Approximately 65% of our graduates entered a two or four year college. This number has continued to grow over the years.

## **ACHIEVEMENT**

Based on tenth grade MCAS scores, Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School continued to see an improvement during the 2008-2009 school year in student achievement in both English/Language Arts and Mathematics. In the spring of 2009, Monty Tech's passing rate on the mathematics portion of the test climbed from 98% to 99% while the percentage of students scoring in the proficient and advance categories in math went from 79% to 77%. The school's passing rate on the English portion of the test was 100% in 2008 and 99% in 2009, while the students scoring in proficient and advanced categories in English went from 73% to 80%.

The following data represents the percentage of students who met the competency score in English/Language Arts and Mathematics at the time of graduation:

<u>Language Arts</u>	<u>English Mathematics</u>
Class of 2009	100%
	100%
Class of 2008	100%
	100%
Class of 2007	100%
	100%
Class of 2006	100%
	98.3%
Class of 2005	100%
	98.6%
Class of 2004	100%
	94.8%

## **FACULTY AND STAFF**

In the 2008-2009 fiscal year, Monty Tech was affected by the slowing economy. Our Chapter 70 aid was reduced by 10%, as were all schools in the Commonwealth. As a result of this, our staff was reduced by 22 positions, which included 6 retirements, 1 resignation and 15 layoffs. We did hire or transfer additional staff to cover a few of these positions.

The current staff includes 55 vocational teachers, 4 vocational teaching assistants, 45 academic teachers, 4 guidance counselors, 1 school psychologist, 1 speech and language therapist and 1 media specialist.

## **SKILLS USA**

Skills USA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. Through our association with Skills USA, our students develop job skills, teamwork, leadership and professional skills.

Skills USA Massachusetts has the second largest membership in the nation boasting 19,300 student and 800 professional members. The state has 42 secondary schools and 1 post secondary school, 34 of

which are total participation Skills USA Chapters.

The 2008-2009 school year was an extraordinary one for our chapter of Skills USA. Due to the growing membership in the state chapters, it became necessary to restructure the state from five districts to six. Monty Tech's chapter found the new structuring both challenging and refreshing. Our chapter was able to deliver productive, rewarding and educational experience for all our students. Serving as co-advisors were First Sergeant Paul Jornet, JROTC Instructor, Kim Curry, Cosmetology Instructor and James Hachey, Admissions Specialist.

## **Highlights of the year included:**

- A total of 42 medals were captured at the District Competition held in March at Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical School.
- Fifty-two students made up of medal winners and district qualifiers earned the opportunity to compete at the State Leadership & Skills Conference held in April at Blackstone Valley Vocational Technical School. Monty Tech finished the competition with 21 medals and 5 students earning the right to compete at the National Leadership & Skills Conference, which was held in Kansas City, Missouri during June.
- Of the five students competing at nationals, three earned medals. Michelle Gosselin won gold in Action Skills, Jessica Lopez won silver in Pin Design and John Perkins won silver in Power Equipment Technology. Ben O'Conner, Culinary Arts and Paul Leslie, Carpentry, finished in the top half of their competitions.
- Monty Tech's Skills USA chapter was awarded a \$10,000 grant from Lowes, Inc. for the restoration of Moran Park in Fitchburg. In June, the chapter performed 250 man hours of

work removing overgrown trees and brush and then our Masonry Program poured a concrete slab for the construction of a storage shed. The final stage of the project, which is building a shed and installing a fence around the playground, will be completed in early November 2009.

## **WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY**

A total of eight Monty Tech females successfully completed the 2008-2009 session (the seventh year of the program) of the North Central Massachusetts Women in Technology Program, also known as Project WATCH (Women Achieving Technical Career Heights).

The students included five from Office Technology, two from Drafting Technology-CAD, and one from Graphic Communications. Two additional students started the program, but dropped out due to co-op positions. One student, who emigrated from Vietnam seven years ago, spent three years in the program. The experience was invaluable in helping her acclimate to her new country, as well as aiding her in improving her English. She did so well that she was accepted at three excellent colleges and universities. She is now studying business administration at Fitchburg State College.

Through the program, qualified students from four area high schools – Monty Tech, Gardner High School, Leominster's Center for Technical Education and Narragansett Regional High School – have the opportunity to spend two days a month exploring career opportunities in high-tech fields, such as Engineering, Information Technology and Marketing, at Tyco Safety Products Company and SimplexGrinnell, two Fortune 500 companies located off Route 2 in Westminster.

The Greater Gardner Chamber of Commerce, serving as fiscal agent for the program, provides transportation to the industry site through a private-sector grant.

Under the mentorship of company engineers, IT specialists and other professionals, participating students have the opportunity to experience firsthand life in corporate America. They are exposed to careers in high-tech fields working on “real world” projects, acquiring skills in teamwork, problem-solving and critical thinking.

Project presentations were held at the end of the year to showcase the student's work for company executives, school personnel and families and friends.

## **CURRICULUM**

In addition to the house building projects, the vocational/technical programs continue to provide communities in the Monty Tech District with a range of services as a component of the curricula. The projects listed below are a sampling of services accepted during the 2008-2009 school year.

### **Auto Body/Collision Repair Technology**

Gardner – Athletic Department – pole vault stop

Sterling Police Department – push bar for cruiser

Winchendon Highway Department – repair rust and refinish vehicles

### **Automotive Technology**

Fitchburg Boys & Girls Clubs – repaired bus

### **Cabinetmaking**

Hubbardston – made signs for town

Barre Library – bookcases

Templeton – Narragansett School District – made a rolling cabinet

### **Cosmetology**

Gardner High Rise – senior citizen services



Gardner – Father/Daughter Dance services  
Gardner – Dunn’s Park – community service  
– clean up

#### Culinary Arts

Taste of Wachusett  
Taste of North Central

#### Dental Assisting

Lunenburg & Winchendon – CHIP Program  
Ashburnham Health Fair  
Westminster Elementary Schools – Dental  
Education

#### Drafting Technology

Banners for Gardner Air Jet Rally  
Westminster Conservation Trust – made  
signs and posters  
Athol – press booth  
Barre Library plans  
Hubbardston – CNC files for signs

#### Early Childhood Education

Fitchburg Community Partnership –  
Math/Literacy Fair

#### Electrical

Winchendon Housing Authority Garage  
Westminster – wiring for holiday tree

#### Engineering Technology

Gardner – fixed PA system for Monument  
Park Bandstand

#### Graphic Communications

Templeton School Handbook  
Templeton Development Center Big Ticket  
Winchendon Pop Warner Yearbook  
Westminster VFW Menus  
Fitchburg High School Football Program  
Gardner CAD stationary  
Baldwinville PTO Tickets  
Ashburnham-Westminster Raffle Tickets  
NEADS Postcard  
Habitat for Humanity stationary  
Winchendon AHIMSA Animal Rescue

Gardner Middle School Yearbooks  
Westminster’s 250<sup>th</sup> Flyer  
North Central Charter School Prom Tickets  
Lunenburg Annual Report  
Fitchburg Yearbook  
Westminster Placemat  
Ashburnham Boy Scouts  
Gardner High School Illumination Book

#### Health Occupations

Annual Blood Drives  
Shop Angel Christmas Charity Collection

#### Industrial Technology

Barre Bandstand – repaired railings  
Gardner Municipal Golf Course – rain  
shelters  
Westminster – cannon wheels  
Fitchburg – plaques  
Phillipston – library ramp

#### Information Technology

Gardner – Montachusett Veterans Outreach  
Center Web Design

#### Machine Technology

Fitchburg Police Department – key chains

#### Masonry

Winchendon Elementary School – formed  
and poured sidewalks  
Winchendon Housing Authority – chimney  
Fitchburg – Moran Park – formed and poured  
pad for shed

### **SPECIAL SERVICES**

During the 2008-2009 school year,  
the Montachusett Regional Vocational  
Technical School District provided special  
education services to over two hundred  
students.

The federal special education law, the  
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act  
(IDEA), was reauthorized in December of  
2004 and came fully into effect on July 1,  
2005. In August 2006, the U.S. Department  
of Education released new Regulations for

Part B of IDEA, which went into effect on October 13, 2006. The 2004 Amendment to IDEA expanded upon the 1997 reauthorization and includes new requirements. The reauthorized act continues to emphasize the role of parents and expands opportunities for parents, general educators and special educators to work together in partnerships that support student learning and the success of students in adult life.

The Student Support Services Department at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School provides support to all students. We have full time nursing staff that administers medications, performs state mandated health screening exams, and provides, when necessary, health information to the TEAM for a student's IEP meeting. We employ a full time school social worker that is able to participate in TEAM meetings and assist students who have needs concerning finances, family issues, homelessness, maternity, health issues and proper food and clothing. Our students have access to the services of a full time adjustment counselor and part time school psychologist. Both of these individuals are available for scheduled counseling sessions and mental health emergency treatment, as well as crisis intervention. We do have on staff a full time psychologist whose role it is to evaluate all students referred for an initial evaluation or who require a three-year re-evaluation. In addition, we have a full time speech pathologist that is available to service students with disabilities, assess these students and consult the teachers within the building.

The Special Education Program at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School district is reviewed annually in May, in accordance with regulatory requirements. The results of this evaluation are used to improve the special education procedures and programs at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District. The

Parent Advisory Council participates in this review and evaluation.

The Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District adheres to federal and state laws regarding confidentiality of personally identifiable student information.

## **STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ATHLETICS**

The Monty Tech Athletic Program was again very successful in the 2008-2009 school year. Our numbers keep increasing every year. We had sixteen teams compete in the fall of 2008, eleven in the winter of 2008-2009 and nine last spring.

Last fall, the Varsity Football Team, under first year coach Matt Sallila, did not win a game, but played with a lot of heart and enthusiasm, improving every week and giving their all during practice and games. They finished the year with 35 players (9 seniors) and worked very hard in the off-season to get ready for 2009. The Freshman Football Team was 1 – 6 and had 33 players complete the year. The Varsity Boys Soccer Team finished at 4 – 9 – 5 and played hard throughout the year. The JV Boys Soccer Team was 9 – 5. The Golf Team was 5 – 6 – 1 and missed the District Tournament by one match. We had three JV Golf Tournaments at The Red Farm Golf Course in Upton and played five other matches in an attempt to improve our program. The Field Hockey Team was 2 – 16. The Monty Tech faculty held the annual Teacher vs. Student Field Hockey Game to raise money for a scholarship for a deserving Monty Tech female athlete. It was very successful. The Boys Cross Country Team was 6 – 8 and the Girls Cross Country Team was 3 – 3. The Girls Volleyball Team had an 8 – 12 record. The JV Girls Volleyball Team was 5 – 12 and the Freshmen Girls Team was 4 – 11, as they continue to improve. The Varsity Girls

Soccer Team was 7 – 7 – 4, qualifying them for the District Tournament where they lost to Blackstone Valley Tech in the first round. The JV Girls Soccer Team finished at 7 – 7, with most of the girls moving up this fall. Our girls program looks very promising. The varsity cheerleaders participated in the CAL Championships held at Westford Academy in October.

The Girls Varsity Basketball Team missed the District Tournament for the first time in many years, as they finished at 9 – 11. They finished the year with four straight victories to show promise for next year. The JV Girls were 9 – 8 and the Freshmen Girls were 8 – 6, as they prepared to move up to the JV Program this year. The Varsity Boys Basketball Team finished at 4 – 16. The JV Boys Basketball Team was 6 – 13 and played with a lot of desire and pride. The Freshmen Boys were 6 – 9 and showed vast improvement over the year. The Wrestling Team was 3 – 11 in dual meets and participated in many tournaments. Bobby Monks, a senior from Athol, became the first wrestler to win over 100 career matches, as he finished with 116. We ran a co-op team with Fitchburg High School and Oakmont. Monty Tech was the host school. The Co-op Ice Hockey Team did very well again, as they participated in the District Tournament, losing in the Semi-Finals. The JV Ice Hockey Team played very well, as the younger players look to improve their skills. We participated in a co-op Swim Team with Leominster and had seven girls complete the season. We are looking forward to this venture again this year.

In the spring, the Varsity Softball Team again gave Monty Tech a lot to be proud of, as they won the Central Mass. Division III Tournament for the second time in five years. They won the Colonial Athletic League Championship for the twentieth time in twenty-four years and finished second in the State Vocational Tournament. They beat Turners Falls in the state semi-finals to

advance to the state championship game at Worcester State. They played a strong game, but fell to St. Mary's of Lynn, 8 – 5. They finished the year at 24 – 3 and Coach Reid picked up his 500<sup>th</sup> career win and stands at 516 victories for Monty Tech. The JV Softball Team was 4 – 9 – 1. The Freshmen Softball Team was 2 – 6. The Boys Volleyball Team was 3 – 16. The Varsity Baseball Team finished at 4 – 16. The JV Baseball Team was 7 – 6, and the Freshmen Baseball Team was 2 – 9. The Boys Track & Field Team was 6 – 6, while the Girls Track & Field Team was 7 – 5.

The Outstanding male and female athletes for 2008 – 2009 were:

Male: Robert Cruz

Female: Ivette Tejada

## **TECHNOLOGY**

Monty Tech is very fortunate to have the support of a School Committee and an administrative team that is committed to meeting the technology needs of our students and staff. Monty Tech's computer inventory includes workstations using both Windows and Macintosh operating systems. Wireless access points are available in several areas of the school.

Many of our vocational programs rely heavily on computerized applications. Our academic departments have also integrated technology into the educational experience of our students through the use of interactive whiteboards. Monty Tech's students are well prepared to enter the workforce, military or college with exposure to computer software and hardware that they will encounter once leaving the school.

Monty Tech's Electrical Department has made improvements to the infrastructure of the building by adding electrical circuits in the Technology Office Server Room. They

also began replacing old network wiring in the original academic wing of the building.

Data continues to be an important tool for administrative decisions. The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Data Warehouse is being utilized to analyze MCAS scores and related data.

## **GRANTS AND CONTRACTS**

Monty Tech continues to pursue grant funding on an annual basis. These funds assist in providing many educational and social services to the student population. For fiscal year 2009, state and federal grant sources provided the school with \$2,121,608. Programs funded by these grants include: Improving Teacher Quality, Enhanced Education Through Technology, Special Education Allocation and Program Improvement, Title I, Drug Free Schools, Occupational Education – Vocational Skills, Emergency Recovery, Safe Schools and Summer Academic Support. (NOTE: The Emergency Recovery Program grant for \$1,293,561 was a result of federal stimulus funding and the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund [SFSF], offsetting the reduction in state aid for Chapter 70.)

In addition to state and federal grant sources, Monty Tech was also the recipient of private grant awards totaling \$23,190. Monty Tech received \$10,490 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), a reimbursement for ice storm expenses. The New England Dairy Council awarded Monty Tech a grant for \$2,700 for refrigeration equipment, and Lowe's awarded the Monty Tech Skills USA Program with a \$10,000 grant to support community service and outreach efforts. Total grant awards for fiscal year 2009 was \$2,144,798.

## **CONCLUDING STATEMENT**

The School Committee and administration are extremely proud of the staff and students of the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District and their accomplishments. The school continues to work with the business community, local educational institutions, higher education and its vocational technical counterparts to develop common sense plans and responses to the educational challenges we all face.

Monty Tech's School Committee, administration and staff look forward to continued growth and we are committed to providing the best possible educational opportunities for workforce development within our District, and to that end, respectfully invites and encourages the continued support of town officials, parents and citizens in each of its member communities.

---

## **Finance and Warrant Advisory Committee,**

Town of Athol

Annual report FY '08

July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

Members of the committee are:

Brian Dodge, Chairman, term expires 6/30/2011

Erik Euvard, Co-Chairman, term expires 6/30/2011

Cynthia Caldwell, term expires 6/30/2012

Pamela Caranfa, term expires 6/30/2010

Michelle Leeman, term expires 6/30/2012

Robert Parks, term expires 6/30/2011

Gary Deyo, term expires 6/30/2012

Reserve Fund Balance

Beginning Balance: \$196,000.00

Ending Balance: \$125,000.00

Authorized Transfers:5

## Transfers Denied:1

May 08 transfer for \$18,000.00 for the Veterans' Office

Jan 09 transfer for \$26,000.00 for EMS callback for the fire station

April 09 transfer for \$14,000.00 for the Veterans' Office

May 09 transfer for \$1,000.00 to the tax office for postage

May 09 transfer for \$12,000.00 for ambulance billing and supplies

October 09 transfer for \$495.00 for the town clerk was denied.

The FWAC also does the recommendations for the annual town meetings.

The FWAC meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed of every month.

---

## Capital Program Commission

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen;

The Capital Program Commission welcomed John Lambert as it's representative from the Planning Board this year, replacing William Caldwell and Jim Smith.

They joined Chairman Robert Muzzy, Linda Oldach, Michael Butler, and Eric Euvard.

The Capital Program Commission (CPC) was created by Charter in 2000 and presented its first Capital Improvement Program budget to Annual Town Meeting in 2002.

The CPC meets regularly during the months preceding each annual town meeting to review capital requests from each town

department. Capital outlays, as defined by Charter, involve the acquisition of land or an expenditure of twenty-five thousand (\$25,000) or more and having the useful life of at least three years. Department heads provide the CPC with a list of their department's capital needs for five years into the future. The CPC then decides which projects will be funded in the upcoming fiscal year and which items must wait. Often the CPC will decide to partially fund a project or vehicle purchase and allow a balance of funds to accrue over time. If an item is considered an emergency or is too expensive to fund through the annual CIP budget process, the committee may recommend to Town Meeting that the money be borrowed.

In FY09 the CPC reviewed \$3.6 million in requests and after two months of deliberation recommended a budget totaling \$933,679 to Annual Town Meeting.

This budget was originally \$1,331,045 but underwent a last minute edit when it was learned the state's local aid would not be in amount originally counted on. The CPC worked with the Town Manager & FWAC to find compromises that ensured priority projects would move forward.

One of the projects that was greatly affected was the Town Hall window replacement project. Originally the CPC voted to set aside \$50,000 for this project. In the end not quite \$2,000 was recommended. One new window will be bought and installed in the Town Manager's office as an example.

Also \$100,000 in water and sewer improvements was eliminated from the budget altogether.

The CPC did continue to work with the regional school department to put \$125,000 into technology improvements.

Department	Item/Project	FY09
Assessing	Revaluation	25,143

	3 Yr Reval	30,000
<b>Town Hall</b>	Window Replacement	1,750
<b>Fire – vehicles</b>	Ambulance	190,000
<b>Fire - projects</b>	Paving -stn	31,221
<b>Fire - equipment</b>	Hazmat / Breathing Air Cascade Trailers	17,000
<b>Library</b>	Building Repair	0.00
<b>Police</b>	Vehicles	38,000
<b>Police</b>	Equipment Firearms	25,000
<b>Public Works Equipment</b>	Vehicles, Leases & Repairs	263,000
<b>Public Works Projects</b>	Numerous	
	Philipston Dam	71,913
	Non- Chapter 90	60,000
	Grant Project match	50,000
	Playground-Lake Street	
	Infrastructure	
	I&I	
<b>Athol Royalston Regional School District</b>	Technology	125,652
<b>CIP Reserve</b>		5,000
	Sub Total	<b>933,679</b>

Respectively Submitted;

Robert Muzzy, Chairman

---

## ANNUAL REPORT FY2009

### OFFICE OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

During the past year this  
office has continued to

administer the  
Community Development

Block Grants (CDBG), and to provide planning activities for the town. The office is set up to administer the CDBG grants; the Office Manager, the Grant Administrator, and the Rehab Specialist are each fully funded by the CDBG funds while the Director of Planning & Development/Town Planner is funded at 50% by CDBG funds. The Town Planner also provides administrative support to the EDIC, serves on the Tax Increment Finance Committee, and supports economic development for the Town whenever possible.

In FY09 the office administered CDBG funds that were awarded in FY07, FY08 and FY09, in the amount of approximately \$1,200,000 and completed projects that included the Liberty Street reconstruction, and over 20 Housing Rehabilitation projects in the towns of Athol, Petersham, Phillipston and Royalston. This office also funds Social Service projects each year that have focused on activities that provide either education or literacy services as they relate to economic self-

sufficiency; in 2009 the Town funded a Job-related Child Care project. This office works with the EDIC to provide administrative support for the planning activities associated with the development of the North Quabbin Business Park, and with the Board of Planning & Development.

---

## **Zoning Board of Appeals**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The Zoning Board of Appeals meet every fourth Wed of the month at 7pm in rm. 21.

The ZBA provides under MGL Chapter 40A, an appeals process for property owners denied building/zoning permits by the Inspector of Buildings/Zoning Agent.

The Athol Zoning Board of Appeals has 5 members and 1 alternate.

Members are:

Elvin Chartrand, Chairman  
Richard Coburn, Vice Chair  
Susan Sykes  
Robert Mallet  
Henry D'Orto  
Richard Godin, Alternate

In FY2009, the Athol Zoning Board of Appeals heard 10 cases. Out of those 10

cases, 1 variance was granted and 9 special permits issued.

---

## **ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE EDIC 2009**

The annual goals were as follows:

#1- Follow the process of sale and completion of School St project.

#2- Join ICSC for retail leads to Business Park

#3- Look for additional business in Business Park other than retail.

#4- Have completed a market research report for Athol.

#5- Promote additional commercial sites with potential business through Mass Econ.

#1- The sale of the High School/Middle School was finalized and the building was purchased by The Stratford Capital Group. They met all conditions and received a building permit. It is a very active site with many tradespeople working in a very professional manner. The project with a budget of approximately 13 million will be completed in October of 2010 and renting will be started for 55 and older.

#2- We joined the International Council of Shopping Centers. We met with owners of development companies as well as principals of potential retail companies who might locate at a new site. Site locators for big box

retail companies were also present.

#3- We have contacted potential companies through Mass Econ and ICSC. We spoke to a pellet manufacturer who liked the site because of the access to Route 2 and for the availability of wood in proximity to the site. The drawback was the lack of a rail siding. Two companies, which are waste to energy companies, have letters of intent with local land owners. One is Orbit Energy and the other is Enviropark. Orbit is anaerobic digestion and the other is a plasma type system. Both manufacture electricity.

#4- A market research report was completed for Business Park and Athol in general. The original draft of the report contained information which was considered derogatory and the report was completed. We shared the expense of this report with the State. It was not considered a positive report to use for marketing Athol.

#5- MassEcon is a quasi State agency that directs companies to different areas based on their needs. We have had several inquiries to the Athol area. Two companies in particular have letters on intent for land in Athol. One is Orbit Energy and the other is EnviroPark. We are holding a meeting here in Athol for EnviroPark on June 30<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM



## **CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE**

ANNUAL REPORT  
FY09

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

The Charter Review Committee is appointed annually by the Board of Selectmen. The Committee is made up of the following: The Town Manager, Town Clerk, Moderator, a member of the Board of Selectmen, a member of the Charter Commission and 3 citizens.

The Charter Review Committee review's the Town of Athol's Charter and makes recommended changes to the Board of Selectmen and to the voters in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 43B.

In FY09, the Charter Review did not recommend any changes to the Town of Athol's Charter.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Williams, Chairman  
David Ames, Town Manager  
Nancy Burnham, Town Clerk  
Pamela Connor  
Mary Forristall  
Lawrence McLaughlin, Moderator  
Wayne Miller, Selectman  
Elizabeth Peterson

---

## **ZONING BYLAW REVIEW COMMITTEE**

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

During FY09 the Zoning Bylaw Review Committee (ZBRC) continued its work to update the Town's Zoning Bylaws. The committee recommended four zoning articles for the 2008 Fall Town Meeting which the townspeople approved. The first involved an update to section 3.2, Accessory Building and Uses. The second was the deletion of a redundant entry in the Use Regulation Schedule. The third was a new definition for "Structure" in Article IV, Definitions. The fourth was an update to section 3.3, Swimming Pools.

During the 2009 Annual Town Meeting the ZBRC recommended, and the townspeople approved, the Small-Wind Energy Systems bylaw. This bylaw permits the siting of stand-alone and roof-mounted wind turbines with rated nameplate capacity no greater than 60 kilowatts (kW). The Use Regulation Schedule was updated to include Small-Wind Energy Systems and footnote 7 was defined to exclude stand-alone wind turbines in the Central Commercial zoning district.

A new Zoning map was approved by the townspeople during the 2009 Annual Town Meeting. The ZBRC contributed to the development of the new zoning map which was spearheaded by the Planning office.

During FY09, the ZBRC also addressed the following issues during their monthly meetings:

- Earth Removal
- Signage
- Green Communities Act
- Request from a property owner to permit residential use of first

- floors in the Central Commercial zoning district.
- Request from a resident to reduce the setback for stables.
- Wireless Communications
- Transfer of Development Rights
- Inclusionary Housing
- Infill Lots
- Low Impact Development
- Right to Farm
- Zoning District Narratives
- Site Plan Review

The ZBRC meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 in room 21 of the town Hall

Sincerely,

Richard D. Godin, Chairman

Current Committee Members:  
Richard D. Godin, Chairman, Acting Secretary  
Hal Gillam, Vic-Chairman  
Bill Aucoin

FY09 Committee Members:  
Richard D. Godin, Chairman  
Hal Gillam, Vic-Chairman  
Danielle Oertel - Secretary  
Carolyn Broullet  
Lynne Barilone

---

### **Athol-Orange Cable Advisory Board**

The Athol-Orange Cable Advisory Board met several times during the last year. The purpose of this Board is to make sure the cable contract is being followed and to accept complaints or comments about the current cable service. We encourage any resident to contact us if there is a

problem with cable service. All comments we receive will be discussed at our meeting and kept on file until the cable contract is up for renewal. Please understand that we cannot solve the problems of reception but if we have enough complaints when it is time to renew the contract then we can hold Time-Warner accountable. Time-Warner is in the midst of an upgrade; once this is complete high definition signal will be available. Cable bills will now come from the Portland, Maine office of Time-Warner. Complaints or comments should be sent to the Town Manager in Athol and he will forward them to the committee, or to one of the committee members.



The Cable Advisory Board is made up of two residents from Athol, two from Orange (currently there is one open slot), and a representative from AOTV. If you are interested in attending a meeting, please check at the town hall for the meeting date and time. Meetings are held at the AOTV office on South Main St., Athol.

Nancy M. Blackmer, Orange

Beverly Chauvette, Athol

Daniel Carey, Athol

Carol Courville, AOTV

**ATHOL CULTURAL  
COUNCIL  
FY2009**

The Athol Cultural Council conducts yearly, a community input meeting and grant decision meeting to allocate funding received from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Membership includes Pauline Briggs (ex-officio), Anne Cutler-Russo, Kathy Cygan (ex-officio), Joann Deacon (ex-officio), Tabitha DeHayes, Brianna Haskins, Christine Hause, Melinda Jack, Marie Lehmann, Jean Shaughnessy, Ethan Stone, and Nancy Tatro.

**2009 FUNDING CYCLE**

Grants were awarded to the following recipients:

Athol Bird & Nature Club	“Reading the Forest”	\$ 300.00
Athol Area YMCA	Youth Outreach / Summer Theatre	\$ 350.00
Athol High School	Oliver! Spring Musical	\$1,000.0
John Root	Popular Music of the Gaslight Era	\$250.00
Friends of the Athol Public Library	Impressionism: Monet’s Magic Garden	\$440.00
North Quabbin Garden Club	The Invasive Alien Plant Crisis	\$75.00
Dennis Rindone	Honoring Mass Veterans	\$250.00
Orange Revitalization Partners	Starry, Starry Night	\$500.00
Pleasant Street Elementary School	Theatre at the Mount “Willy Wonka”	\$1,800.00
Riverbend School	Theatre at the Mount “Willy Wonka”	\$600.00
Royalston Community School	Theatre at the Mount “Willy Wonka”	\$486.00
Sanders Street School	Theatre at the Mount “Willy Wonka”	\$990.00

---

## Lake Park Playground Rebuilding Committee

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen;

The Lake Park Playground Rebuilding Committee disbanded this year.

The committee which was created in November 2005 reached its goal in the fall of 2007 to rebuild a playground where the wooden park has once stood at the intersections of Lake St, Fish St., Pequog Ave. & Wallingford Ave.

Before disbanding the committee finalized the plans for the memory brick walkway which now greets playground users when they enter the park. More than 200 bricks were sold and laser inscribed by PermaMark Inc.



Additional equipment, including ADA compliant picnic tables and benches were purchased and installed.

The committee wishes to thank Robert “Red” Hunter of Intervale Ave. who has – as part of the Town’s Senior Tax Abatement Program – spends about

an hour each and every morning during the summer months tending to the park.

Red makes sure the mulch is raked, picks up the litter and in general makes sure the park is safe and looking it’s best for the children who use it. It wouldn’t be the same without his efforts and we wish there were more people like him.

Sincerely,

Robert Willard, Chairman  
Laurie Parker  
Francis Graziano  
Wayne Whitfield  
Elizabeth Peterson  
Vanessa Delorey  
Heather Brissette

---

## **MEMORIAL BUILDING COMMITTEE** 2008 – 2009

Town Bylaws Chapter IV, Section 1(b) states “The town hall building, dedicated as a memorial to Athol’s soldiers and sailors of all wars, shall be known as Memorial Building. The Memorial Building Committee is responsible for the care, custody, and control of the entire Memorial Building Committee. The Committee shall consist of three Selectmen and four voters appointed by the Town Manager. This Committee with the aide of the Town Manager shall employ necessary janitors and caretakers, and attend to the lighting, heating, care and repair of the building, and make reasonable rules and

regulations not inconsistent with these bylaws for the use and occupancy of said building.”

**The Memorial Building Committee met quarterly during July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009. The following are the highlights of the meetings:**

- Discussions on replacing the windows at the Town Hall began in September 2008
- Town Manager informed committee that the Town received a grant to replace the windows in the Town Hall in January 2009
- Discussion on the placement of air conditioners in the new windows. Committee

---

## **MEMORIAL HALL REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE**

June 5th, 2010

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the citizens of the Town of Athol:

The Memorial Hall Revitalization Fund committee was established in November, 2005. We are a volunteer committee established to plan, organize and produce alcohol free community events that will generate revenue to be used for the revitalization of Memorial Hall in the town of Athol. Renovations will include custom-built acoustic panels to reduce echo, World-Class Sound System and Stage Lighting, Equipment for ADA Compliance, and new artistic décor, highlighting local cultural history.

recommended placing covers over the air conditioners in the winter and decide at a later date where to place them

Respectfully submitted,

Alan D. Dodge, Chairman  
Nancy E. Burnham  
Ben J. Feldman  
Glenn Frenette  
John R. Greene  
Phil King  
Wayne Miller, M.D.

In FY10 the committee raised money by selling refreshments at the Tool Town Live concerts to the tune of \$667.35, and open mic events in the amount of \$294.75. We also received donations from Silhouette's (\$100) and Pop's Novelty Ice Cream (\$50). There were also a number of donations made to the fund in memory of Mary Gerry (\$510). I was reimbursed \$46.12 for items I purchased to be packaged and sold at Tool Town Live Concerts.



Our main focus was on achieving the goal of initializing the treatment process in Memorial

Hall. The committee began the first phase of acoustic treatment which effectively reduced the time of mid frequency and high-mid frequency reverberation in Memorial Hall from over 5 seconds to under 4 seconds.

With continued efforts we will reduce the reverberation to an even better level which will make events in Memorial Hall easier to hear and understand. Below is a breakdown of the expenditures of this effort.

Vibraciences tile and adhesive \$11,392.92  
Staging and lift \$1,435.04  
Architect Peter Schmid \$1,300  
Installer Mark Wright \$3,500

\$2,451.86 is the amount in the fund as of the date of this letter.

Members of the committee are Ethan Stone, Joanne Rich, Tom Rich, Tonisha Thompson, Rene' Lake, Bonnie Benjamin, and Charlie Pierson III. David Ames is an associate member.

Respectfully submitted,

Ethan Stone, Chairman

### *Tax Incentive Financing Committee*

The Town's Tax Incentive Finance (TIF) Committee meets as a result of specific applications by interested parties; Businesses who seek to receive a temporarily reduced assessment on improvements to their property or business. The town may elect to defer a percentage of increased valuation over a fixed period of time as an incentive for investment. Typically, the Town can see an increase in jobs and related future revenue as part of the equation with a TIF, thereby justifying a reduced assessment. The Town's TIF Committee includes the Town Manager, Town Accountant, Town Assessor, Director of Planning & Development and the Chairman of the Athol Finance Committee.

The Town TIF Committee did not offer any TIF agreements in FY2009.

---

## **CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2009 ANNUAL REPORT**



---

### **TOWN OF ATHOL OFFICE OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT**

ROOM 29  
584 Main Street  
Athol, MA 01331

[planning@townofathol.org](mailto:planning@townofathol.org)

telephone: 978-575-0301

fax: 978-575-0323

The Citizen Advisory Committee is in place primarily to serve as a means for the citizens of Athol to have input into the development and administration of the Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) program. This Committee meets once a month and works to provide policy for the use of the CDBG funds that is consistent with existing regulations and Department of Housing and Community Development guidelines. The Committee has assisted with the development of a social service needs assessment, has created a policy for the use of CDBG and Town of Athol Program Income, and has assisted with evaluations and selection of sub-contractors. The committee currently consists of the Town



Grant Administrator, the Director of Planning & Development, the Director of the Athol Council on Aging, the North Quabbin Director of Veterans Services and the Director of the North Quabbin Community Coalition. Any citizens of Athol interested in serving on this committee are encouraged to apply through the Town Manager's office. Monthly Committee meetings are open to the public and Citizen Participation is welcome.

---

## **Athol Energy Committee Annual Report 2009**

This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the Athol Energy Committee. We now have four members. Members are Brian Nugent, Kristin Marquis, Pat Roix Secretary and John Jackson Chairperson. We continue to have meetings once a month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Our mission statement continues to be: To serve the municipality of Athol in energy conservation and renewable options by:

- Gathering information
- Seeking consultation
- Disseminating information
- Making prioritized recommendations based on comparison of data

The Athol Energy Committee has been constructive in generating relationships with organizations that promote green energy, green economics, green awareness, and conservation techniques. The Energy Committee has been essential in Athol being designated as a Green Community. We will continue to vigorously promote the criteria that were achieved in the Green Designation. We will be involved in the process of the annual Green Grant Application that is awarded to Green Communities.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Jackson, Athol Energy Committee  
Chairman